

SWEET
THREE FARMS

ELLIOTT STATE FOREST PAGE 6 WALLICE PAGE 15

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EUGENE WEEKLY

OSCAR SHORTS

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INEXPENSIVE

Trips
TO TAKE IN
Oregon

PAGE 10

THE
TRAVEL
ISSUE

Photo by Bob Keefer

Upcoming City of Eugene Budget Committee Meetings

All meetings are scheduled to begin at 5:30 p.m.

Some meetings may be held in person while others continue to be held remotely using virtual meeting technology. Information on how to watch the meetings, provide public comment, and obtain meeting materials is available at: www.eugene-or.gov/BudgetCommittee

Wednesday, March 9, 2022
Financial condition update and budget process discussion

Wednesday, April 27, 2022
City Manager's presentation on the FY23 Proposed Budget

Wednesday, May 11, 2022
Budget Committee deliberation on the FY23 Proposed Budget

Wednesday, May 18, 2022
Budget Committee deliberation and public comment on the FY23 Proposed Budget

Wednesday, May 25, 2022
Budget Committee deliberation, public comment, and recommendation on the FY23 Proposed Budget



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Banana -(YoungBloods)

David Aguilar

-(Norton Buffalo, Bonnie Raitt, Jackson Brown)

Peter Albin -(Big Brother & the Holding Co.)

Roy Blumenfeld -(Nick Gravenites Band)



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letters

YOUR VACCINE CHOICE AFFECTS EVERYONE

I'm writing in response to Katharina Jones (Letters, 2/17), who believes that anti-vaxxers have valid reasons for their stance and do not deserve the hostility aimed at them. Although an editorial note mostly debunked her arguments, I would point out that she also doesn't understand the grave threat posed by COVID to the unvaccinated. There is no equivalent threat from being vaccinated.

Only a handful of deaths attributable to the J&J vaccine have been documented. Compare that with the millions killed by COVID globally. Then there are the millions with long COVID, the emerging evidence of organ damage from mild cases and the new variants that threaten us all.

My strong 83-year-old dad lived a clean, healthy life. From that, he drew the faulty conclusion that he was naturally immune and didn't need to be vaccinated. His belief didn't keep him from contracting COVID and dying by slow suffocation and eventual organ failure. Here's a quote from him as he gasped for breath: "This is — unadulterated — hell." My dad — my best friend — died before my eyes, because he underestimated how vicious and unrelenting COVID is.

Anyone reading this who is not fully vaccinated and boosted, please, please

get it done. Don't risk a horrible death like my dad's or infecting someone else who dies from it. Your choice affects everyone around you. COVID doesn't care about your pride and small conceits. It is merciless.

Leigh Rieder
Creswell

VACCINES ARE VITAL

I was pleased to see the perspective offered by John Zerzan about vaccines (Viewpoint, 2/10). My first response is an "Amen, brother!"

It truly is about the ability for critical thinking, and it's also about lived experience. Those of us in the generation that now gets flippantly dismissed with "OK, Boomer" — we lived through the polio years. We got vaccinated against smallpox. Thank you, World Health Organization.

A close family member contracted a "mild" case of COVID early on, in spring of 2020. But they now must grapple with a possible life-long case of long COVID; their symptoms have proved alarming. As a physician with 40 years' practice under my belt, I have seen my share of post-polio cases: a syndrome that has been buried from public attention, much like so many autoimmune disorders, because its effects are chronic and non-communicable.

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The younger set of idealists are late to the party when it comes to seeing the big picture. A sense of historical context is missing, and sure, I have done my share of warnings against the greedy industrial monster known as Big Pharma. I am not fond of the over-marketing of largely unnecessary vaccines. But a pandemic is a whole different deal, and the failure to understand that phenomenon amounts to sheer ignorance of human history.

I mourn a few formerly deep friendships that have been lost to the ubiquity of internet misinformation. Fear is what drives the process, and that happens to be the most viral contagion afflicting humanity.

Vip Short
Eugene

FREEDOM HAS LIMITS

"Not All Anti-Vaxxers are Crazy" (Letters, 2/17) is true — some are people with real medical excuses — so that must leave the selfish and misguided. Viruses thrive on this group.

All this "freedom" rhetoric is a ruse. In our city there is no freedom to blow leaves and debris into my yard, or rev up your unmuffled hot rod at 11 pm or yell "Fire!" in a crowded theater, and there is no freedom for some to endanger me (or cause my death) or anyone else's by refusing to get a vaccine that has been

proven safe. This mantra we hear — "My body, my choice" — only works if you are living outside a city. Urban environments have laws for the safety of all. It's been that way since the first cities were formed thousands of years ago.

Contrary to some fear-mongering media outlets, the COVID vaccines are thoroughly tested and safe. All vaccines and Rx's have side effects, and there will be a few people who will react adversely or even die, but those numbers are minimal and statistically anomalous. The real big numbers are the numbers of unvaccinated who are dying in droves.

If science hadn't made vaccines for polio, measles, dengue fever, flu, SARS2, etc., our species would be gone.

Be part of the solution in our city and get vaccinated — or go live on an island.

That's your "freedom."

Annie Kayner
Eugene

OUR RIGHTS ARE BEING TRAMPLED!

As with the Battle in Seattle and the Monsanto Row in Sacramento, the Brew-ha-ha in Ottawa is being portrayed as violent fringe extremists with crazy views up against the law-and-order-protecting state. The reality is, to anyone present at those protests (excluding John Zerzan's "Anarchist" agent pro-

vocateurs) is that the truckers against vaccine mandates and their allies are exactly the same as the coalition of farmers, unionized workers, Earth First!ers, hippies and human rights activists who fought against corporate globalization.

Why is the whole medical freedom community written off as right wing nutjobs with unacceptable views? Why would any progressive person or paper ignore or condemn the demands of millions of people? Is it deplorable to demand an end to the state of emergency that has been used by the state to trample the human rights of all citizens? Is it wrong to demand an end to the propaganda and the censorship perpetrated by the media and government?

Anthony Willey
Cottage Grove

Editor's Note: And yet here you are writing a letter to an editor of the propaganda-making and freedom-censoring media.

EUGENE RENTERS SHOULD ORGANIZE

Renters in Eugene are being ripped off. We pay exorbitant prices for spaces infested with black mold, filthy common areas and poor insulation. Yet the landlords collect their checks every month without fail. Renting property has become a completely risk-free investment. It's time to change that.

I pay more in rent than my parents ever did for the duration of their mortgage. By the time they were my age, they were already five years into their mortgage. Yet, property ownership is a far-off fantasy for me and my peers. I've paid nearly \$100,000 in my short adult life to landlords, but still, I own nothing, and my credit is poor. Without a miracle, I'll continue this path.

I have never rented an apartment that was cleaned when I moved in, never left a mess in my apartment after my lease, but yet never received my damage deposit back. I've never violated the terms of my lease, but I've always been forced to vacate at the end with no option for renewal.

What do landlords actually do? What purpose do they serve in a democratic society?

Renters of Eugene need greater protection. We need to organize ourselves into a collective force based on our shared class interests. The City Council needs to pass measures, such as capping application fees to \$10, eliminating damage deposits, and holding criminally negligent landlords accountable. Renters are the backbone of society. Without the work of renters, Eugene cannot function.

Alex Rau
Eugene

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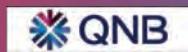
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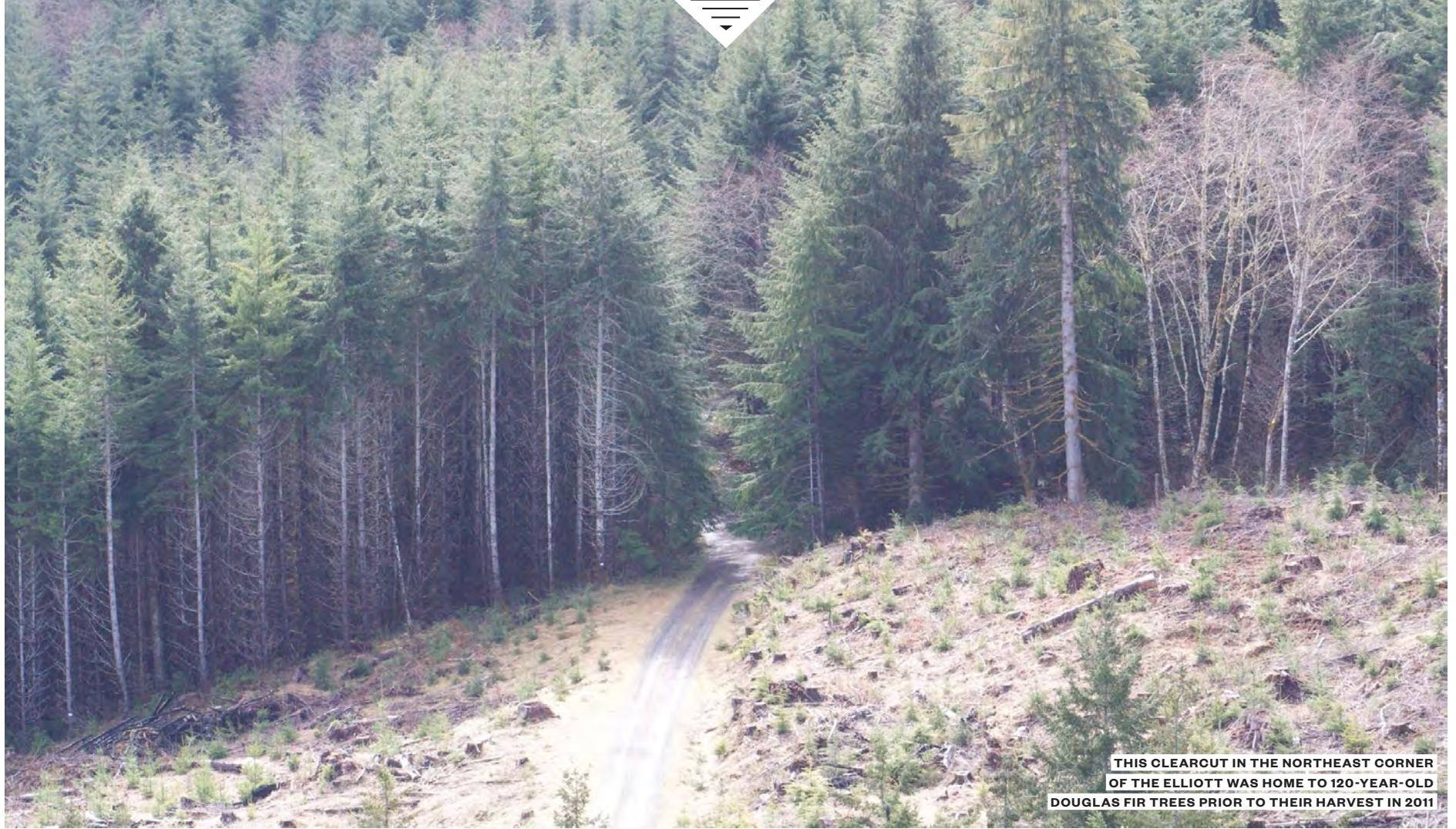


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THIS CLEARCUT IN THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE ELLIOTT WAS HOME TO 120-YEAR-OLD DOUGLAS FIR TREES PRIOR TO THEIR HARVEST IN 2011

Photo by Clayton Franke

The Elliott's Potentially Peaceful Future

NEW BILL WOULD DECOUPLE THE ELLIOTT STATE FOREST FROM THE COMMON SCHOOL FUND AND CREATE NEW RESEARCH FOREST

By Clayton Franke

Francis Eatherington's iPad slides across the dash of her Subaru as she swings the car onto the 7700 road in the Elliott State Forest. The tablet is full of downloadable maps of past timber sales, some she stopped, some she didn't. Cobwebs in the corner of the dash light up as sunlight beams through the windshield. She stops the car in the middle of the road and pulls out a paper map littered with swatches of blue, pink and yellow and a web of logging roads.

"It's kind of like a plate of spaghetti," she says of the map. The graveled forest roads weave through the Elliott — 82,000 acres of clearcuts, timber plantations and native old growth forests just south of the Siuslaw National Forest in Oregon's Coast Range. Eatherington, the former conservation director at Cascadia Wildlands, knows the roads well from her work fighting old growth timber harvests and protecting endangered species habitat.

The Elliott has been one of the battlegrounds for Oregon's "timber wars," with decades of conflict surrounding forest ownership and timber harvest revenue. But a new bill in the Oregon Legislature could resolve the conflict and pave the way for other agreements between historically disparate groups.

In 1859, Congress granted Oregon statehood. Along with statehood, Congress designated 3.4 million acres of Oregon's land to be managed by the Department of State Lands (DSL) for the purpose of funding Oregon's K-12 schools. According to the DSL, the fund's current value

is \$2.2 billion. The State Land Board — a group consisting of the governor, treasurer and secretary of state — designated \$64.2 million (or 3.5 percent) for spending in 2022. Today, Common School Fund land is one quarter of the size it was when the state was founded. Over time, Oregon sold parts of the land and some was even swindled.

The state established the land that is now the Elliott as Oregon's first state forest in 1930 by exchanging Common School Fund lands for a large block from the Siuslaw National Forest, and the fund began relying on revenue from the forest. Senate Bill 1546 in the Oregon Legislature would decouple the Elliott from the Common School Fund, meaning the Elliott's trees would not be harvested in an effort to generate money for Oregon's schools.

"It's incredibly archaic to try to tie logging in a state forest to school funding," says Josh Laughlin, Cascadia Wildlands executive director.

The bill would also create the Elliott State Research Forest, transferring management to Oregon State University and a new state entity, the Elliott State Research Authority, potentially resolving the forest's long-time saga between the state, Oregon's public schools, environmental groups and the timber industry.

"People have been beating each other's heads in for 30 years now, and they're tired," says Sen. Jeff Golden of Ashland, chair of the Oregon Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery. "They're looking for a peaceful path forward, and this bill gives more cause for hope."

Golden says SB 1546 is a result of three years of collab-

oration from the main stakeholders who worked on an advisory committee that included representatives from Native American tribes, conservation groups, the state and timber interests.

"We have a really strong interest in the Elliott," says Colin Beck, forest lands manager for the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians. "It's right in the middle of our ancestral territories. We still have many of our tribal members who use the Elliott on a regular basis."

For decoupling to occur, the state will buy out the appraised value of the forest, which is \$221 million. In December 2018, the State Land Board approved \$100 million in bonding toward decoupling. The remaining \$121 million will come from the SLB's General Fund.

Since the establishment of the forest, money from timber harvest has not only supported the Common School Fund, but forest management costs. However, several Endangered Species Act lawsuits by conservation groups over the last 20 years have lowered the value of the forest. The ESA protects the marbled murrelet — a rare seabird — northern spotted owls, coho salmon and coastal martens, the latter of which were listed as threatened in 2020, that inhabit the Elliott. After a 2012 murrelet lawsuit from Cascadia Wildlands, the state could no longer log much of the old growth forest, and it started to lose money to forest management costs, leading the SLB to consider alternative ownership of the forest.

In late 2016, the board voted to privatize the Elliott and agreed to sell the forest to Lone Rock Timber Company

and the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians. But a few months later, public pressure forced the board to abandon privatization and come up with a new public plan for the Elliott, which involved the \$100 million in bonding.

The DSL and OSU then began exploring concepts for the Elliott State Research Forest.

Original plans had OSU assuming ownership of the research forest, but the university backed out last fall, saying the financial risk was too high. OSU's 2020 management proposal suggested a \$2.1 million yearly deficit due to forest management costs.

But in OSU's most recent proposal, experimental timber harvest — used to study the effects of logging — will generate enough revenue to cover management costs, and no timber harvest will be conducted solely for the purpose of revenue. In addition, the forest could make money through research grants and carbon credits to offset other costs or reinvest into the forest.

The plan designates different management strategies for harvest management. About 51,000 acres of the forest are in no-harvest or reserve classifications, while 31,000 are in either extensive or intensive harvest. Most of the areas of harvest are in previously logged and replanted sections of land.

According to Geoff Huntington, the Elliott State Research Forest project advisor for DSL, the project will look for federal funding to cover a \$35 million startup cost that includes research equipment and a new \$17 million research and administration building. Timber harvest revenue won't kick in for the first three years of operation. Oregon Treasurer Chief of Staff Dmitri Palmateer says the state is in a "good spot" to receive these funds.

SB 1546 also includes strong conservation measures for endangered species. Last fall, the DSL submitted a Habitat Conservation Plan for the forest that "establishes clear boundaries for timber harvest" in compli-

ance with the ESA, including stream buffers for logging to protect salmon. The plan conserves old growth habitat for marbled murrelets. Eatherington says the birds need the wide, moss-covered branches only available in large trees for their nests.

"It's hopeful that our native forests will continue to grow into really significant old growth and they'll never be threatened again," Eatherington says.

After passing out of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildlife, the bill now sits in the Joint Ways and Means Committee and awaits its passage to the House. The current legislative session ends on March 5. Sen. Golden says he thinks the odds are "very high" that the bill will pass.

"These negotiators who had been at odds for so long are coming together shoulder to shoulder in the legislature and saying, 'Oregon needs this bill,'" Golden says. "That goes a long way around here." ■

For the People

A PROPOSED BALLOT MEASURE WOULD GIVE EVERYDAY OREGONIANS MORE MONEY

By Henry Houston

When Oregonians file their state income taxes this year, many of those getting tax refunds will see a larger sum than usual because of the Oregon "kicker" rebate, which happens when the state collects more revenue than it needs. But two creators of a potential November ballot measure want Oregonians to receive money from the state every year through increased taxes on corporations.

The Oregon People's Rebate is sort of a revival of Measure 97, a 2016 ballot measure that proposed taxing corporations. By increasing taxes on corporations that make more than \$25 million, the proposed ballot measure would direct that money to residents, resulting in about \$750 per person.

The organizers behind the measure are still collecting signatures, but they say if it passes, it would be a positive gain for everyday Oregonians. The potential ballot measure could face a similar reaction from corporations that Measure 97 saw, but this time the organizers say voters will prefer seeing the money go directly to them rather than the Oregon Legislature.

"The Oregon People's Rebate invests in Oregonians by uplifting everyone by starting the process of corporations starting to pay their fair share and putting money directly into hands of Oregonians who know how to spend it the best," says petitioner Anthony Johnson. "They know what their family needs, whether it's help paying rent, groceries, education costs or child care costs." Johnson was the chief petitioner of measures 91 and 110, legalizing cannabis and decriminalizing small amounts of illicit drugs, respectively.

The idea for the rebate emerged when chief petitioner Antonio Gisbert and his friends were talking about how corporations weren't paying their fair share in taxes when so many people are struggling to get by. "We all feel like we're getting squeezed," Gisbert says. "Everything is more and more expensive all the time and it's harder to make ends meet, no matter how hard you work."

Gisbert and his friends decided to take the model of Measure 97. Measure 97 was on the November 2016 ballot and proposed a 2.5 percent tax on corporations that made more than \$25 million in sales. Had the measure

passed, that tax revenue would have gone to the Oregon Legislature's general fund. Gisbert says he and his friends took that tax model and made a big change: Have the tax revenue go directly to residents.

Under the current tax structure, Johnson says corporations that make more than \$25 million in sales only pay one-eighth of 1 percent in taxes. If passed, the proposed ballot measure would raise taxes on those corporations to 3 percent, a half percent more than what Measure 97 proposed.

Gisbert says that it's a marginal tax rate, so the increased tax rate is applicable on sales made after the \$25 million mark.

A key difference between Measure 97 and the rebate, Johnson says, is that the money goes directly to residents rather than going to the Oregon Legislature's general budget.

Johnson says they're using the state's ballot measure process to bypass the Oregon Legislature. People can't wait any longer for politicians, he adds, especially as the child care tax credit continues to be stuck in the U.S. Senate along with much of the Biden administration's Build Back Better agenda. "Politicians who you can't depend on," Johnson says. "Oregonians can't count on [Sen.] Joe Manchin of West Virginia to do what's best for everyday Oregonians."

Gisbert estimates that an individual Oregonian could see an annual rebate check of \$750, though that number would fluctuate depending on how much the state collects from corporations. The rebate depends on how many people — including dependents — are in the household, so a family of four would see about \$3,000 per year. He says that such a rebate could reduce child poverty by about 26 percent in Oregon.

Although it's not yet on the ballot, the Oregon People's Rebate has received some campaign finance support. It has received \$36,300 from the nonprofit Gerald Huff for Humanity Inc., an organization that advocates for universal basic income.

Universal basic income is a guaranteed sum of money that comes from the government to decrease the number of people in poverty, according to the Gerald Huff for Humanity organization. The Oregon People's Rebate is a tax credit, not a universal basic income program, which

would deliver money regularly to the bank account of a resident.

Petitioners of the Oregon People's Rebate still need a lot of signatures before landing on the November ballot, though they say they're on track for the July deadline. If the petition does become a ballot measure, it could face a battle similar to the one that defeated Measure 97.

Opponents of Measure 97 raised a lot of money to fight the ballot measure. One campaign called Defeat the Tax on Oregon Sales had a war chest of \$27.2 million, according to campaign finance data from OreStar. Notable contributors to the campaign included \$2.3 million each from Albertsons-Safeway, Costco Wholesale and Kroger/Fred Meyer. Measure 97 failed, with 59 percent of voters rejecting it.

But the petitioners say the political climate has changed dramatically since 2016.

"Anti-corporate sentiment is much more prevalent across the political spectrum, including conservatives and Republicans," Johnson says. "I think if you did polling six years ago how Republicans and conservatives felt about corporations, you'd hear things about how corporations are made up of people and they're job creators."

Johnson says he expects large corporations such as Nike and Comcast to oppose the rebate if it gets on the November ballot, so it'll take everyday Oregonians to rise up and defeat that corporate influence.

One of the talking points Johnson thinks corporations will focus on is how expensive it'll be for them to conduct business in Oregon. But, he points out, "Intel, Nike, Apple, they're still going to continue to sell their products in the state of Oregon, so it doesn't matter if you have your headquarters in Ohio or Oregon, you're doing business in Oregon and generating over \$25 million in sales," Johnson says. "Why wouldn't you want to do business in a state that you're generating more than \$25 million in?"

He adds that a MacBook or a pair of Nikes cost the same, whether it's in Boise or Eugene, and businesses pay more in taxes to operate in other U.S. states. "This marginal tax rate doesn't impact the cost of goods that big corporations want to claim," he adds. Corporations will say they'll pass the cost of doing business on to the consumer, "but they'll fight hard to not enact the tax that they supposedly don't pay."

If the rebate gets on the November ballot and voters approve the measure, Gisbert says the amount of money given to residents of Lane County would be about \$281 million a year. In Eugene alone it would be about \$126 million per year and \$46 million in Springfield.

"To keep things in perspective, if you compare these numbers with the World Athletics Championships, it's a lot of money," he says. "And the city doesn't have to host an event." ■

For more information, visit OPR2022.org.

slant

• When most of the news is so gloomy, it's a pleasure to read *St. Vinnie's Voice*, the newsletter of St. Vincent de Paul and its director, Terry McDonald. Consider these numbers: During five activations of Egan Warming Centers in the cold week after Christmas, St. Vincent de Paul provided 842 beds and 1,696 meals to keep unhoused people safe. During two more potentially lifesaving activations in January, the Warming Centers provided 355 more beds and 710 meals. Volunteers worked 645 shifts totaling more than 2,300 hours during the series of activations after Christmas. As McDonald puts it: "My 38-year journey with SVdP has proved to me that we can make a difference."

• Is *The Register-Guard* homeless? We've been hearing from people around town who can't figure out where the *RG*'s newsroom is, or if it still exists. Photos posted on Facebook late last year showed the newsroom at its Chad Drive offices had not only been emptied of furniture but gutted, and a staffer's report, later removed, said the paper was moving to a building at 10th and Mill downtown. But there's been no announcement of such a move, or where the newspaper is, and the *RG* website offers only a mailing address at the old Chad Drive location. So where's the *RG*? We emailed Editor Michelle Maxwell to ask where the newsroom is

working these days. Turns out, it's temporarily homeless, with reporters and photographers working from their own homes and cars. "We are currently working remote, as we are in the process of moving," Maxwell replied. "I can't comment on specific office information. As soon as I can announce something I will be publishing it for readers. People can reach us by our office phones or by email." We wish them luck finding a place to rent in this market.



• **Marty Wilde, state representative for central Lane and Linn counties, published a long op-ed opinion piece in the Sunday, Feb. 20 Oregonian, explaining why he left the House Democratic Caucus.** His conclusion: "We must again put our duty to the people before our loyalty to our party. When the House

Democratic Caucus recommits to transparency, accountability and democracy, all Oregonians will benefit." Interesting that Wilde sent this to a Portland newspaper rather than the two Eugene-based papers in his own district. We suspect that redistricting issues are behind this piece. Recent redistricting in the Legislature led to Wilde's section of southeast Eugene being pulled into a largely rural district, almost guaranteeing Wilde's district will be won by a Republican. He was also redistricted out of being able to run for Sen. Floyd Prozanski's seat.

• **Although the Oregon Supreme Court ruled that Nick Kristof could not run for governor this time because of residency requirements, there was one bright light for him.** He raised at least \$2.5 million for his campaign and still has about \$1.5 million left — with latitude for spending it. As other media have reported, he can return it to donors and close his bank account; he can decide to run for another office and repurpose his campaign account, or he can give the money to other political action committees. There's one more option — he can give the money to nonprofits. Kristof praised the Relief Nurseries around the state, a program that helps families prevent child abuse. How about giving money to the Relief Nursery in Eugene, or providing funding to ameliorate the other problems he was discussing during his campaign — homelessness, public education or economic recovery from the COVID pandemic? He's fundraised successfully for years through his annual *New York Times* holiday gift guide, so philanthropic giving should be an easy pivot.

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Eugene Needs a Well Designed Mass Transit System, Properly Sized Buses, Point-To-Point Service, Excellent Roads, Plentiful Parking & Charging Stations, Well Maintained Sidewalks, Walking Trails, Bike Paths & Maps

Nevertheless, since 2015, Lane Transit District and the Eugene City Council have *sneakily* been advancing massive transportation infrastructure plans for which NO NEEDS have been demonstrated. WITHOUT THE PUBLIC'S INFORMED CONSENT OR INPUT, the engineering firm CH2M Hill completed detailed "EmX" and "Enhanced Corridor" alternatives in 2017 for River Road, Hwy99, Coburg Road, Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., and 30th Avenue:
<http://www.movingahead.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/23-CH2M-2017.pdf>

The plans could cost taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars to build, operate and maintain, and likely result in snarled traffic and the substantial taking of private property. Numerous surveys indicate, for convenience and health and safety reasons, private transportation will continue to be the preferred means of transport, but the plans take away lanes for cars and substitute bus-only lanes. (Most buses now run nearly empty.) With a growing population, an increase in private and ride-share vehicles, including electric vehicles, more parking and charging stations will be required that are NOT accommodated by the plans.

Moving Ahead — a partnership between the City of Eugene, Lane Transit District, and other (undisclosed) regional partners — have been holding public meetings to promote the plans and ostensibly to seek input WITHOUT revealing the actual plans to the public, or to residents, businesses, and property owners on the corridors. NO public engagement has resulted in changes to the plans since their creation.

BEST (Better Eugene-Springfield Transportation) has had knowledge of the detailed Moving Ahead plans, but has taken NO LEGITIMATE ACTION to ensure that the public at large and key stakeholders on the corridors were fully informed about the plans and allowed input in their revision before they were advanced. BEST is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that steadfastly refuses to reveal their funding sources saying only, "we receive support from a variety of individuals, local businesses, other organizations, and foundations." BEST looks like a front organization for the "**Transit-Industrial Complex**", a lobbying group that promotes expensive taxpayer funded infrastructure projects that profit their members but may not be beneficial to the involved communities.

See: <https://ti.org/antiplanner/?p=17445>

THE PUBLIC DESERVES ANSWERS:

WHAT are the NEEDS on each corridor? WHO ordered the Moving Ahead plans? WHAT instructions was CH2M Hill given? WHAT other consultants have been engaged in the Moving Ahead project? HOW MUCH has been paid to CH2M HILL and other consultants developing and promoting the plans? WHO PAID for them? WHO are Moving Ahead's "regional partners"? WHO runs the Moving Ahead website? WHAT were the ridership projections (when grants were applied for) on each of the corridors LTD has completed (Franklin Blvd, Gateway/RiverBend, and 11th Ave.)? WHAT are the ridership numbers now? WHO is ultimately responsible for overseeing the Moving Ahead project and holding those working on the project accountable for accuracy, transparency, and public engagement?

IF YOU WANT ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS & BELIEVE THE PUBLIC SHOULD BE FULLY INFORMED & HAVE INPUT ON OUR TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM BEFORE THE EUGENE CITY COUNCIL OR LTD BOARD OF DIRECTORS TAKES ACTION ON FEBRUARY 28, 2022 TO ADVANCE PLANS FURTHER, PLEASE VOICE YOUR OPINION NOW.

SEND EMAILS TO:

Eugene Mayor & City Council: [Https://Www.Eugene-Or.Gov/537/Mayor-and-City-Council](https://Www.Eugene-Or.Gov/537/Mayor-and-City-Council)

Lane Transit District Board of Directors: <Https://Www.Ltd.Org/Board-of-Directors/>

Beaches and Horses

CAMPING ON OREGON'S COAST, EQUINE STYLE BY CAMILLA MORTENSEN

As I galloped down the beach, the sounds of the wind and the waves and the hoofbeat of my horse swirled together with my laughter. Riding in Oregon's coastal waves is one of the best experiences I have had.

Nine times out of 10, beach rides feel like the culmination of an equestrian dream — and the dream of many non riders as well. That 10th time, though, the gallop ends ignominiously with the rider's plunge into the ocean and the sight of your steed high-tailing it down the beach without you.

But if you can block out a weekend, camping on the coast with that fiery steed makes it possible to slowly get your horse used to the waves and really cuts down on how much sand and water winds up down your pants and riding boots. A longtime equestrian, I have gone riding on the coast any number of times, but I jumped at the chance last summer to camp at Nehalem Bay Horse Camp and take a couple days to introduce a horse who was new to the waves.

Pulling into the state park to meet my friends, I was a little intimidated by the RV camping I had to drive through to get to the horse area. It felt crowded. But on reaching the horse camping area, the 17 spots — each with two corrals and some with room for more horses — felt spacious and even a little secluded. (Side note: Nehalem Bay State Park also has fly-in camping for those who just happen to have a small plane.)

I have an old gooseneck trailer and an even older Ford truck, and sleep in my horse trailer when I camp. Zaiden, the horse I brought, settled into his corral, which was conveniently near a hose for water and a grassy area he could graze, or where folks with less accommodating trailers could set up camp. I brought my own hay, feed and manure removal gear, and the park has a manure pile and some gravel to help with wet corrals.

The horse camp is reserved only for those with horses, but some of our nearby campers brought boats as well as horses. This worked out rather nicely for my friends and me when the folks with boats came back with their limit of fresh caught crab and cooked them up for us.

A night sipping whiskey by the fire and eating the crab was preceded by the first ride to the beach. At Nehalem, you have a number of options — ride through the dunes to the beach, ride a trail behind the dunes for a couple miles to the jetty and cross to the beach, or ride along the bay. We elected to ride along the trail then cross over, and by the time we got to the waves, Zaiden was so used to the sound he barely noticed them.

Pro-tips: Don't ride your horses toward the waves; ride them in at an angle, don't let them stand staring at the waves or they get dizzy between the moving water and shifting sands. And finally be ready for small children, dogs, kites and Frisbees.

Day two we checked out the bay and the crabbers and fishermen, and by day three, Zaiden was so unconcerned about the whole ocean enterprise we were soon doing that gallop through the waves. He was, as one of my fellow riders put it, wave broke.

There's something amazing about sleeping with the sounds of waves crashing in the distance at night. Add to that the sound of a crackling fire and the contented snorts of a horse, and it's pure Oregon magic.

For those of you who are horseless, Oregon Beach Rides does guided rides out of the Nehalem Bay day-use area during the summer. Closer to home, C&M Stables does the same in Florence at Baker Beach, which offers horse camping sans corrals.

Find out more about Nehalem Bay State Park at StateParks.Oregon.gov. Campsites fill up fast, so reserve in advance. Check out Oregon Beach Rides at OregonBeachTides.com and C&M Stables at OregonHorsebackRiding.com.

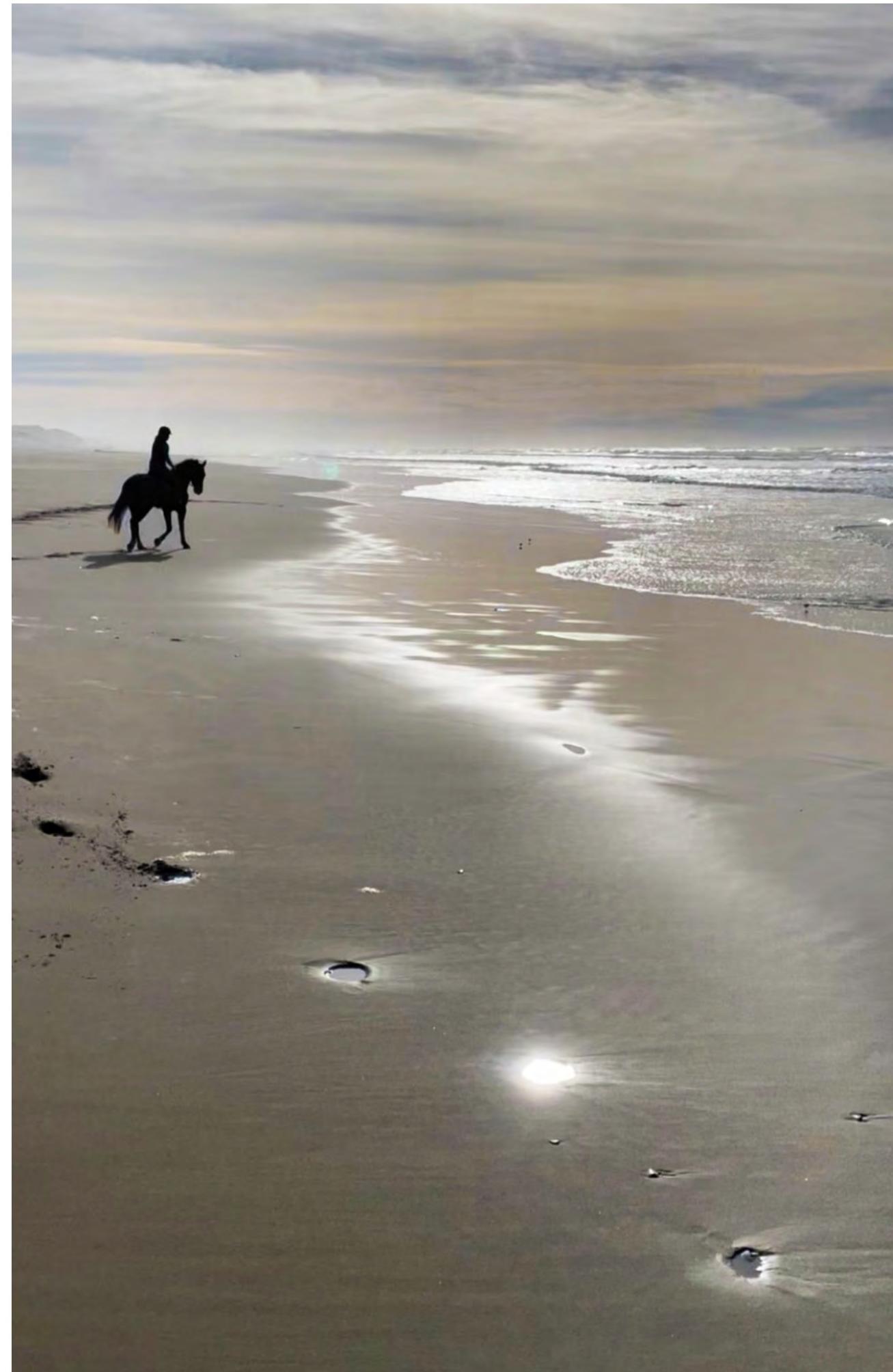


Photo by Camilla Mortensen

The Other Refuge

OREGON'S SUMMER LAKE WILDLIFE AREA IS CLOSER AND QUIETER THAN MORE FAMOUS MALHEUR REFUGE - AND NOW IS THE TIME TO VISIT

BY BOB KEEFER

The thing about eastern Oregon's Summer Lake is, you don't go there for the lake. In summertime, in fact, especially during the Western drought of recent years, the high desert lake — which sits off Highway 31 north of Lakeview — barely has any water in it, if it exists at all.

What you do go for is clean air, gorgeous scenery, splendid isolation, free campsites — and birds. Lots and lots of birds, especially now as spring migration is beginning.

Forget all about that better known federal bird refuge over in Harney County. You can see many of the same species, and often with fewer other people in your way, at the state-run Summer Lake Wildlife Area, an easy three-hour drive from Eugene, making it more than two hours closer from here than Malheur National Wildlife Refuge.

The Summer Lake refuge consists of 30 square miles of desert marshland, much of it viewable from an 8.3-mile gravel loop road that takes you from refuge headquarters — on Hwy 31 right across the road from Summer Lake Lodge, which offers comfortable rustic rooms and a good restaurant at reasonable prices — past reedy marshes (see red-wing and yellow-headed blackbirds, coots and even an occasional elusive bittern), past a few expanses of open water (shorebirds such as ibis, sandpipers and avocets), through a stretch of cultivated fields (where short-eared owls hunt in the early evening) and back to the highway across from Summer Lake Store, where you can stock up on gas and basic groceries.

As you drive the loop counter-clockwise, be sure to stop at the large barn next to a campsite on a spur road off to the left; its interior is an excellent place to find great-horned and barn owls enjoying daytime naps.

And speaking of campsites: The refuge has four primitive camping areas, offering picnic tables and restrooms on mowed grassy areas. They're usually quiet and uncrowded except during duck season, late in the year, when they can be jammed with big RVs. Camping is free, except that you need to buy a parking pass to park anywhere in the refuge, including the camp grounds; it's \$10 daily or \$30 for the calendar year at myODFW.com. The permits are also good at 14 other Oregon Department of Fish and



Photo by Bob Keefer

Wildlife areas around the state.

Besides birding the marshes, staying at Summer Lake gives you access — once the snow has melted off — to a beautiful pine forest atop nearby Winter Rim, a high ridge that parallels Hwy 31 to the west. Driving the occasionally steep gravel road that takes you along the top of the rim can require a sense of humor in some places, but it gives you spectacular views over the lake and marshes.

Along the way you'll pass the remote Fremont Point Cabin. Owned by the Forest Service and situated atop a steep rocky outcrop, it can be rented by the day (\$40), giving you and yours 24-hour access to one of the most breathtaking views in the Northwest.

Farther afield, check out Fort Rock State Park, off Hwy 31 about 40 miles north of Summer Lake; the circular rocky outcrop was never a military fort but looks like a medieval island fortress in the middle of a sea of sagebrush. An easy loop trail from the parking lot gives you a tour inside

the fortress walls, and a nearby cave is where the famous 9,000-year-old reed sandals displayed at the University of Oregon Museum of Natural and Cultural History were found in 1938 by UO anthropologist Luther Cressman.

Another 10 miles north of Fort Rock, aspiring bird and wildlife photographers should check out Cabin Lake Campground. The old Forest Service facility, in a mature pine forest, offers neither a cabin nor a lake, but does have a spacious primitive campground — and a pair of well-appointed photographic blinds, with water features that attract a steady stream of winged and four-footed visitors ready for their closeups. The blinds are free to use, first-come, first-served; feel free to leave a donation for upkeep.

Find plenty more information online by Googling "Summer Lake Wildlife Area," "Fremont Point Cabin," "Fort Rock State Park" and "Cabin Lake Viewing Blind."

Bull by the Fins

THE SOLITARY QUEST
TO CATCH
OREGON'S
NATIVE
BULL
TROUT
ON THE FLY

BY CLAYTON FRANKE

Clouds of dust leaped from the dirt road as I tromped steadily up a Forest Service road in the Deschutes National Forest. The fine dust preserved my boot tracks next to a line of black bear tracks that I carefully stepped around. I had my duffel bag — which held wading boots, waders, a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, a few scoops of trail mix, a liter of water, a small net — slung over my body like a backpack, and the straps dug into my shoulders. I carried my fly rod in my hand.

The Metolius River charged through the canyon 200 feet below. I looked down the slope on the side of the road, and the grade seemed just gentle enough that I could scramble down it and get to the river. There were

CONTINUED ON P. 12

CONTINUED FROM P. 11

only so many hours to fish that day, and in my haste, I stepped on a patch of loose rocks that immediately tumbled down the hill and sent me backwards. I landed on my duffel bag. I crushed my sandwich for sure. I hoped I didn't break the net.

On a normal fishing expedition I might not put my body and gear on the line like that. But that day was different because I was fishing for bull trout — one of the rarest and most protected fish species in Oregon. They're big — usually over 20 inches — with a broad face and mouth that looks almost mean, hence the name bull trout. Their light brown or green bodies are flanked by orange spots, and their fins are finished with distinguishing white tips.

I had heard a few things about Oregon's bull trout from fly anglers around this state's other rivers. After a day of fishing for stocked trout on the McKenzie, a tall man with a mustache wearing a flannel and shiny waders told me that he had once caught a bull trout and a steelhead on subsequent casts. If you want to talk about bull, I'm pretty sure he was full of it. But I really became interested when a steelhead fisherman on the Deschutes River in Central Oregon said he used to fish for bull trout on the Metolius in his college days at the University of Oregon.

Either he had a gem of a spot or he was a criminal — intentionally fishing for bull trout is illegal in many places and on all but one river in my home state of Montana, and bull trout harvest is illegal everywhere. That's because bull trout are a federally endangered species and are especially vulnerable to the dams that block the fish from completing necessary spawning migrations, as well as habitat loss, invasive species and climate change.

Rivers where an angler can legally fish for bull trout



Photo by USFWS/ Jim Mogen

are few, and the Metolius, as one of these rivers, intrigued me. And one section of the river was "fly fishing only" — exclusive and a bit pretentious, but desirable.

The Metolius is fed by groundwater, which makes it crystal clear, but when I finally did get to the river, I couldn't see that clarity due to the way the water foamed and spit as it rushed through the canyon. The deep pools and logjams where bull trout usually live were nowhere

to be found. I looked up at the slope I had just slid down, cursed, and started the climb back up.

The Forest Service road eventually turned into a trail, and that trail faded away gradually as I walked. I hacked at the overgrown brush just to get to the river, and the good fishing spots were few and far between. Walk for 20 minutes, fish for five, walk for 20. I hadn't even come close to catching a fish.

Finally, I found an open area to reach the river. As I got in position to cast my subsurface fly into a deep drop-off that followed a gentle riffle, I had a good feeling that this spot, after six miles of walking, was my best chance yet to catch a bull trout. And sure enough, on my second cast, I saw a giant shadow swim up and lunge at my fly, roll on its side and flash a pale underbelly toward me. It all happened in an instant.

And then it was over, because the fish missed my fly completely. My worn-down shoulders slumped in defeat. I knew I had just missed my best chance at a bull trout, and I knew that more than likely the opportunity wouldn't come up again. I was right — the only animal I saw for the rest of the day was the pissed-off skunk that charged down the trail at me and nearly ruined my day further.

But on the walk back, contentment replaced my haste and frustration. Above the tips of ponderosa pine across the canyon, the sun turned a protruding slab of rock bright orange. I looked back down into the canyon at the rushing whitewater, thankful I wasn't scrambling down the slope, and thankful that bull trout lived in a place that was so hard to get to.

Camping is accessible at eight Forest Service campgrounds on the Metolius River. Visit the Camp Sherman Store and Fly Shop for fishing and camping supplies.

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what's happening



From the classics of *West Side Story* and *An Officer and a Gentleman* to *Titanic*, *The Lion King* and even *The Muppet Movie* (we can only hope for “Rainbow Connection”), film’s most loved songs take the stage Feb. 27 at the Hult Center when the **Eugene Concert Choir** presents: *The Magic of Movie Music*. Joining the choir at Silva Concert Hall are soprano Siri Vik, actor/singer Bill Hulings and pianist Vicki Brabham, who will lead an instrumental combo. All three are mainstays of The Shedd, whose array of talent will blend nicely with the choir. “When I chose the program for *The Magic of Movie Music*, I chose it to specifically lift people’s spirits,” says Diane Retallack, artistic director and conductor of the choir. So let your spirit soar with “Love Lift Us Up Where We Belong” and “Climb Every Mountain,” and reminisce about “The Circle of Life” with the Eugene Concert Choir.

The Eugene Concert Choir — with guests Siri Vik, Bill Hulings and Vicki Brabham — presents *The Magic of Movie Music* 2:30 pm Sunday, Feb. 27 at the Hult Center. Tickets are \$25 to \$52 with senior and student discounts, and they can be purchased at EugeneConcertChoir.org or at the Hult Center box office. — Dan Buckwalter

GENERAL

ART EXHIBITS

The Whiteaker Community Art Team seeks 10 artists to create intersection and crosswalk murals in the Whiteaker neighborhood during the summer of 2022. Mural experience preferred, though not required. Compensation for completed murals is \$2,500-5,000. Submit concept by Feb. 28. Email WhiteakerArts@gmail.com for submission info.

Art Heals (thru Feb. 26), Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, 1430 Johnson Ln., UO.

Artistic Echoes (thru Feb. 28) w/ featured artist Don Meyers, spotlight artist Kathleen Frazer & members show, New Zone Gallery, 110 E. 11th Ave.

Ceramicist Lynn Peterson (thru Feb. 28) at Karin Clarke at the Gordon, 590 Pearl St., #105.

Exhibit: Paintings by Jonathan Short, inspired by nature (thru Feb. 28), Eugene Public Library.

Infrastructure — Photos by Michael Strain (thru Feb. 28), The O’Brien Photo Gallery, 2833 Willamette St., ste. B.

Same Difference — Eugene Darkroom Group Membership Show (thru Feb. 28), Dot Dotson’s, 1668 Willamette St.

Voice Into Vision (thru March 4), Emerald Art Center, 500 Main St., Spfd.

Exhibition: For the Love of Oregon w/ works by 12 artists (thru March 5), White Lotus Gallery, 767 Willamette St.

Vanishing Points by Michael Sherwin (thru March 11), LaVerne Krause Gallery, 1206 University St.

Ron Jude: 12 Hz (thru March 13), Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, 1430 Johnson Ln., UO.

Environs: Plein Air Painters of Lane County Invitational & Weather Permitting: Work by Laura Ahola-Young (thru March 25), Maude Kerns Art Ctr., 1910 E. 15th Ave.

Michael Z. Taylor - The Willfulness of Being (Life Aware of Itself) (thru March 30), Don Dexter Gallery, 2233 Willamette St.

Margaret Coe: City of Light (thru March 31), Karin Clarke at the Gordon, 590 Pearl St., #105.

Humberto Gonzalez Oregon Landscape: Glimpse and Wonder and Hart James *The Wild in the Flow* (thru

April 9), Karin Clarke Gallery, 760 Willamette St.

GATHERINGS

Job Search Help by appointment at the downtown Eugene Public Library. Call 541-686-7985 to schedule.

EDUCATION

College scholarship opportunities for Black students w/ Oregon Alliance of Black School Educators. More info at ORABSE.org.

THURSDAY

FEBRUARY 24

COMEDY

Monica Nevi, 7pm, Mac's Restaurant & Nightclub, 1626 Willamette St. \$15.

HEALTH

NAMI Family Support Zoom Group @ NAMILane.org, 7-8:30pm. RSVP at NAMILane.org. FREE.

KIDS/FAMILY

Library Storytime, 10:30am or 11:30am, Eugene Public Library. FREE.

LECTURES/CLASSES

Lunchtime Meditation, noon-12:30pm. More info at MeditateInEugene.org. FREE-\$3.

Eugene Darkroom Group’s Community Darkroom Open Use Hours, noon-3pm, Maude Kerns Art Ctr., 1910 E. 15th Ave. \$15.

Emotional-Causal Story, 6-8pm, WordCrafters.org. \$39-49.

MUSIC

John Shipe & Pat Kavney, jazz, 6pm, Territorial Vineyards, 907 W. 3rd Ave. No cover.

Corwin Bolt & The Wing-nuts, folk, 7pm, Beergarden, 777 W. 6th Ave. No cover.

Daysormay, Cloud Out Loud, alt, 8pm, Sam Bond’s, 407 Blair Blvd. \$5.

El Borko Surf!, 60s dance, 9pm, Blairally, 245 Blair Blvd. \$3.

Family Mystic w/ Resonance, folk, 9pm, The Big Dirty, 844 Olive St. \$5.

Funk Jam, 9pm, Luckey’s, 933 Olive St. No cover.

NIGHTLIFE

Karaoke w/ KJ Nutmeg, 6pm, Falling Sky Delicatessen, 790 Blair Blvd. FREE.

Karaoke. 9pm, Monkey’s Paw, 420 Main St, Spfd. FREE.

Karaoke, 6pm, Slice Pizzeria and Bar, 3425 Blair Blvd. FREE.

ON THE AIR

“The Point,” 9am, KOPV, 88.0 FM.

Thursday eKLeCtic, 8-10pm, KLCC, 89.7 FM.

“Arts Journal,” 9pm, Comcast channel 29.

OUTDOORS

Winter Waterfowl Walk (tour limited to 30), 3-5pm, Fern Ridge Wildlife Area, Hwy. 126, Veneta. Sign up for drawing to attend at LongTom.org/WaterFowl-Walk. FREE.

RECREATION

Trivia w/ Elliot Martinez, 6-8pm, Covered Bridge Brewing Group in Cottage Grove (weather permitting; more info on Facebook). FREE.

Trivia w/ Forest, 6-8pm, Gratitude Brewing, 540 E. 8th. FREE.

Esports Game Nights, 6:15-7:15pm, Bob Keefer Ctr., 250 S. 32nd St., Spfd. \$6-8.

SPECTATOR SPORTS

College men’s basketball: UCLA vs. Oregon, 6:30pm, Matt Knight Arena. Tickets at GoDucks.com. ESPN.

SPIRITUAL

Zen Meditation, 7-8am, Blue Cliff Zen Ctr, 352 W. 12th Ave. FREE.

THEATER

Rose Children’s Theater Presents: *Disney’s Frozen Jr.*, 7pm, Wildish Theater, 630 Main St., Spfd. \$10-13.

FRIDAY

FEBRUARY 25

ART/CRAFTS

Faces of Eugene: A Portrait Series by Lester Mauer, 5-8pm, The Alluvium, 810 W. 3rd Ave. FREE.

Last Friday ArtWalk in Cottage Grove (541 Exchange, Five Flying Monkeys, The Crafty Mercantile, Ambrose Collectibles, Kalapuya Books, The Bookmine, Apple Pie Antiques, T&K Creations & Cottage Grove Chamber), 6-8pm. FREE.

DANCE

Collaborations ’22: Lane Dance Company and guest dancers from Western Oregon University, 7:30pm, Ragozzino Performance Hall, LCC, 4000 E. 30th Ave. Donation.

FILM

Photography at Oregon Presents: *Contacts 2: The Renewal of Contemporary Photography, Part 1*, 7pm, New Zone Gallery, 110 E. 11th Ave.

GATHERINGS

Food Not Bombs, cooking starts at noon (email OregonFoodNotBombs@gmail.com for location), serves at 4pm at Park Blocks, E. 8th Ave. & Oak St. next to fountains.

Trans & Disability Group, 2-3:30pm, Transponder. Community. FREE.

KIDS/FAMILY

Library Storytime in person, 10:30am, Echo Hollow Pool & Sheldon Community Ctr. FREE.

LECTURES/CLASSES

Sip & Paint Spring Flowers Watercolor Class, 7-9pm, Art w/ Alejandro, 296 E. 5th Ave., Suite #224. \$45.

MUSIC

Concrete Delta Trio, jazz, 6pm, Territorial Vineyards, 907 W. 3rd Ave. No cover.

2106, Creep Creep Janga & Templet, stoner blues, 7pm, Alluvium, 810 W. 3rd Ave. \$5 donation.

The Ben Rice Band, blues, 7pm, Mac's Restaurant & Nightclub, 1626 Willamette St. \$7.

Jack Radsliff Quartet, 7:30pm, The Jazz Station, 124 W. Broadway. \$15.

Connectarine, 60s-90s rock-american, 8pm, The Hippie Museum, 535 Main St., Spfd. \$10.

Wake of Disaster, rock, 9pm, Sessions Music Lounge, 44 E. 7th Ave. \$10.

Molasses, Broth, jazz-R&B, 9:30pm, Sam Bond's, 407 Blair Blvd. \$5.

NIGHTLIFE

Open Mic in The Cafe!, 5pm, Rooted Space, 245 Van Buren St. FREE.

Bingo w/ Elliot & Chad, 7:30-9:30pm, Viking Braggot Brewery, 520 Commercial St. FREE.

Fetish Night, 9pm, Old Nicks, 211 Washington St. \$20.

Alder Street, bluegrass, 7:30pm, Beergarden, 777 W. 6th Ave. No cover.

Randy Porter — Piano Series #3, 7:30pm, The Jazz Station, 124 W. Broadway. \$35.

RECREATION

Laser Shows: By My Laser Valentine, 7pm & Beyoncé, 8pm, Eugene Science Ctr., 2300 Leo Harris Pkwy. \$7 each

SPIRITUAL

Eugene Insight Meditation Community Practice Session, 10-11am, EugeneInsight.com. FREE.

THEATER

Rose Children’s Theater Presents: *Disney’s Frozen Jr.*, 7pm, Wildish Theater, 630 Main St., Spfd. \$10-13.

Forbidden Broadway’s Greatest Hits, 7:30pm, Actors Cabaret of Eugene, 996 Willamette St. \$25.

Once (A Musical), 7:30pm, Miller Theatre Complex (UO). FREE-\$10.

Radio Redux: *The Fibber McGee & Molly Show*, 7:30pm, Soreng Theater at Hult Ctr. Tickets start at \$19.

SATURDAY

FEBRUARY 26

COMEDY

Bleepin Funny Comedy, 5pm, Sam Bond’s Garage, 407 Blair Blvd. No cover.

FARMERS MARKETS

Lane County Winter Farmers Market, 10am-2pm, 5th Ave. between High & Oak streets.

GATHERINGS

PNW Community Coral Reef-Crafting Day, 10am-3pm, Eugene Textile Center, 1510 Jacob’s Dr. FREE.

Psychedelic Film, Discussion Circle & Library Browsing, noon-2pm, EDELIC Ctr., 544 Blair Blvd. FREE.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, noon-4pm, Lillis Hall room 182, UO, 995 E. 13th Ave.

Kalapuya Storytelling & Hand Drumming, 2pm, Eugene Public Library. Also streamed at bit.ly/EugLib-KalapuyaStories. FREE.

Let’s Talk Transgender Support Group, 3:30-5pm. Email Info@Transponder. Community for link.

HEALTH

Occupy Medical, 2-5pm, 532 C St., Spfd.

KIDS/FAMILY

Drop in Library Storytime in person, 10:30am or 11:30am, Eugene Public Library. FREE.

LECTURES/CLASSES

Compost workshop w/ OSU Extension Service, Lane County (limited to 20), 10am-noon, 996 Jefferson St. FREE.

Sip & Paint Bunnies & Buttercups, 4-6pm, Art w/ Alejandro, 296 E. 5th Ave., Suite # 224. \$45.

LITERARY ARTS

Zoom Poetry Presentation w/ poets John Shelby Williams, Kelly Crossio-Meoller & Hiram Larew, 4:30-6pm. Link at RiverRoadReadings.Blogspot.com.FREE.

MUSIC

John Crain Band, jazz, 6pm, Territorial Vineyards, 907 W. 3rd Ave. No cover.

Brian James & The Revival, blues-soul, and Johnny Wheels, singer-songwriter, & The Swamp Donkeys, 7pm, Mac’s Nightclub & Restaurant, 1626 Willamette St., Spfd.

Alder Street, bluegrass, 7:30pm, Beergarden, 777 W. 6th Ave. No cover.

Randy Porter — Piano Series #3, 7:30pm, The Jazz Station, 124 W. Broadway. \$35.

calendar

Shadow Sway ft. Halie Loren, 7:30pm, Tsunami Books, 2585 Willamette St. \$15

Left On Wilson & Token Rhymes, dance music, 8pm, WOW Hall, 291 W. 8th Ave. \$12-15.

Password: Firebird!, rock, 8pm, Sam Bond's, 407 Blair Blvd. \$5.

Stoner w/ Yawning Man, rock, 8pm, The Big Dirty, 844 Olive St. \$15-20.

NIGHTLIFE

Chemical Burn w/ DJs Ian Dustrial, Vvirtual Vviolence, Jozhur and D:/VOID, 9pm, Old Nick's, 211 Washington St. \$5.

ON THE AIR

"Hearts and Bones," 9-11am, KOFC, 92.7 FM.

SPECTATOR SPORTS

College women's basketball: Oregon vs. Utah, noon. Radio: Oregon Sports Network.

College men's basketball: USC vs. Oregon, 7pm, Matt Knight Arena. Tickets at GoDucks.com. ESPN or ESPN2.

THEATER

Radio Redux: The Fibber McGee & Molly Show, 1:30pm, Soreng Theater at Hult Ctr. Tickets start at \$19.

Rose Children's Theater Presents: Disney's Frozen Jr., 2pm & 7pm, Wildish Theater, 630 Main St., Spfd. \$10-13.

Forbidden Broadway's Greatest Hits, 7:30pm, Actors Cabaret of Eugene, 996 Willamette St. \$25.

Once (A Musical), 7:30pm, Miller Theatre Complex (UO). FREE-\$10.

SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 27

GATHERINGS

Burrito Brigade, 11am-4pm. More info at BurritoBrigade.org. FREE.

MARKETS

Alluvium Free Outdoor Market, 1-3pm, Alluvium, 810 W 3rd Ave.

MUSIC

The Magic of Movie Music w/ Eugene Concert Choir, 2:30pm, Silva Concert Hall at Hult Ctr. \$10-52.

Sunday Eastside Jam, 5pm, Twisted River Saloon, 1444 Main St., Spfd. No cover.

David Jacobs-Strain & Bob Beach, slide guitar &

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New and used military surplus clothing is, durable, comfortable and priced right.

harmonica extraordinaire, 7pm, Tsunami Books, 2585 Willamette St. \$15

LOFREQ Takeover — Jaya, barely great, Dark Velvet, PRIMVL, Walk_iLL B2B Pickle, electronic dance, 8pm, The Big Dirty, 844 Olive St. No price listed.

Still Wozy, indie pop, w/ Wallace, 8pm, McDonald Theatre, 1010 Willamette St. Sold out.

NIGHTLIFE
Karaoke, 6-10pm, Slice Pizzeria & Bar, 325 Blair Blvd. FREE.

Alluvium Open Mic (songs, stories, poems, jokes), 7-10pm, Alluvium, 810 W. 3rd Ave. FREE.

ON THE AIR
Radiolab, 10am, KLCC, 89.7 FM.

"Black Is - A Love Supreme" w/ Eric Richardson, noon-1:30pm, KEPW, 97.3 FM.

SPIRITUAL
Zen Meditation, 4:30pm, Blue Cliff Zen Ctr, 352 W. 12th Ave. FREE.

Eugene Insight Meditation via Zoom, 6:30pm, Eugene-Insight.com. FREE.

THEATER
Radio Redux: The Fibber McGee & Molly Show, 1:30pm, Soreng Theater at Hult Ctr. Tickets start at \$19.

Forbidden Broadway's Greatest Hits, 2pm, Actors Cabaret of Eugene, 996 Willamette St. \$25.

Rose Children's Theater Presents: Disney's Frozen Jr., 2pm, Wildish Theater, 630 Main St., Spfd. \$10-13.

MONDAY
FEBRUARY 28

COMEDY
Stand-Up Open Mic, 8pm, Slice Pizzeria and Bar, 325 Blair Blvd. FREE.

GATHERINGS
Adult Children Of Dysfunctional Families Recovery Group, 7-8pm. See bit.ly/eug-ac or email Sage.Liskey@gmail.com. FREE.

KIDS/FAMILY
Fun Kits for Kids, all day at all Eugene Library locations. FREE.

LECTURES/CLASSES
Follow up on NY resolutions w/ a new yoga practice, 10-11am, Core Star Ctr, 439 2nd Ave. \$10.

Lunchtime Meditation, noon-12:30pm. More info at MeditateInEugene.org. \$2-5.

Russell Nohelty: "Funding Your Book with Kickstarter," 6:30-8pm. Zoom link at WillametteWriters.org. FREE

NIGHTLIFE
Open Mic, 6:30-9pm, First National Taphouse, 51 W. Broadway. FREE.

Trivia, 6:30pm, The Study at Public House, 418 A St, Spfd. FREE.

Bingo, 8pm, Sam Bond's Garage, 407 Blair Blvd. FREE.

Karaoke, 9pm, Monkey's Paw, 420 Main St., Spfd. FREE.

ON THE AIR
"Swervin' In My Lane," 4-6pm, KOFC, 92.7 FM.

RECREATION
Cribbage Tournament (ACC rules-no muggins), 5:30-7:30pm, Coldfire Brewing Company, 263 Mill St. \$3 buy-in.

TUESDAY
MARCH 1

COMEDY
Amuedays — Comedy w/ Chaz Logan Hyde, 8pm, Luckey's 933 Olive St. FREE.

GATHERINGS
Trans Book Club, 5pm, Transponder.Community. FREE.

Women's Drop-In Survivor Support Group, 5:30-6:30pm. RSVP at SASSLane.org. FREE.

NAMI Family to Family, 6-8:30pm, NAMI Lane County. Register at 541-343-7688 or at ResourceCenter@ NAMILane.org. FREE.

NAMI Young Adult Connection Peer Support Group, 6:30-8pm. RSVP at NAMILane.org. FREE.

LECTURES/CLASSES
Lunchtime Meditation, noon-12:30pm. More info at MeditateInEugene.org. \$2-5.

The Church Weekly Figure Art Sessions, 6-9pm, The Church, 810 W. 3rd Ave. \$60 pre-paid for 10 sessions or \$8 drop-in.

MUSIC
Scott Austin, 6:30pm, The Public House, 418 A St., Spfd. No cover.

Jason Isbell and the 400 Unit w/ Shawn Colvin, rock-country, 7:30pm, Silva Concert Hall at Hult Ctr. Tickets start at \$48.50.

MUSIC
Cherry Hill, bluegrass, 6:30pm, The Public House, 418 A St., Spfd. No cover.

Pert Near Sandstone, bluegrass, w/ Laney Lou and the Bird Dogs, 7pm, Sessions Music Hall, 44 E. 7th Ave. \$10.

Delos Erickson Sextet — One Set, 7:30pm, The Jazz

Monkey w/ Simple Minded Symphony, ska, 8pm, The Big Dirty, 844 Olive St.

Bluegrass Jam, 9pm, Sam Bond's, 407 Blair Blvd. No cover.

ON THE AIR
"AnarchyRadio" w/ John Zerzan, KWVA, 88.1 FM.

RECREATION
Quality Trivia, 6:30pm, Coldfire Brewing, 263 Mill St. FREE.

Trivia Tuesdays w/ Geo, 7pm, Beergarden, 777 W. 6th Ave. FREE.

WEDNESDAY
MARCH 2

FILM
OFAM Winter: *Classic Silent & Sound Shorts from the 1920s* w/ Jim Ralph host, 9:30am, Sheffer Recital Hall at The Shedd. FREE.

IWW movie and discussion: *The Wobblies*, 7pm, McNail-Riley House, 601 W 13th Ave. FREE.

GATHERINGS
Gender Diverse Yoga, 5:30pm. Zoom link at Transponder.Community. FREE.

NAMI Connection Peer Support Group, 6:30-9pm. RSVP at NAMILane.org. FREE.

NAMI Lane County Family & Friends Support Group for Suicide Loss Survivors, 7-8:30pm, NAMI Lane County, 129 9th St., Spfd. FREE.

LECTURES/CLASSES
Lunchtime Meditation, noon-12:30pm. More info at MeditateInEugene.org. \$2-5.

OFAM Winter: Introduction to OFAM Winter 2022 w/ Jim Ralph, 5pm, Sheffer Recital Hall at The Shedd. FREE.

Ideas on Tap: "Snakes, Sex and Scents: The Garden of Eden Revisited," 6-7pm. Zoom link at MNCH@Uoregon.edu. FREE.

New Zone Weekly Figure Art Sessions, 6:15pm, The New Zone Gallery, 110 E. 11th Ave. \$60 for 10 sessions or \$8 drop-in.

MUSIC
Hearing Voices & Different Realities Discussion and Support Group, 1-2:30pm, Trauma Healing Project, 691 E. 19th Ave., bldg B. FREE.

HEALTH
NAMI Family Support Zoom Group @ NAMILane.org, 7-8:30pm. RSVP at NAMILane.org. FREE.

KIDS/FAMILY
Library Storytime, 10:30am or 11:30am, Eugene Public Library. FREE.

LECTURES/CLASSES
Lunchtime Meditation, noon-12:30pm. More info at MeditateInEugene.org. FREE-\$3.

Station, 124 W. Broadway. \$10.

OFAM Winter Opening Gala: *When You're Smiling*, 7:30pm, The Shedd. \$25-45.

Pert Near Sandstone, bluegrass, 8pm, Sessions Music Hall, 44 E. 7th Ave. \$10.

NIGHTLIFE

Karaoke, 8pm, The Big Dirty, 844 Olive St. FREE.

ON THE AIR

Funk & Soul Revue, 6pm, KOFC, 92.7 FM & KOFC.org.

"Come Together Oregon," 6-6:30pm, KEPW, 97.3 FM.

Colours of Aire Jazz Show, 9pm, KEPW, 97.3 FM, simulcast KEPW.org.

RECREATION

Wednesday Night Trivia, 6-8pm, Falling Sky Delicatessen, 790 Blair Blvd. FREE.

Trivia, 7-9pm, Tap & Growler, 207 E. 5th Ave. FREE.

SPECTATOR SPORTS

College women's basketball: Oregon vs. Washington, 8pm, Sam Bond's, 407 Blair Blvd. \$5.

NIGHTLIFE

Karaoke, 6pm, Falling Sky Delicatessen, 790 Blair Blvd. FREE.

Karaoke, 6pm, Slice Pizzeria and Bar, 3425 Blair Blvd. FREE.

Acoustic Open Mic, 8pm, The Big Dirty, 844 Olive St. FREE.

Karaoke, 9pm, Monkey's Paw, 420 Main St., Spfd. FREE.

ON THE AIR

"The Point," 9am, KOPV, 88.0 FM.

Thursday eKLeCtic, 8-10pm, KLCC, 89.7 FM.

"Arts Journal," 9pm, Comcast channel 29.

RECREATION

Trivia w/ Elliot Martinez, 6-8pm, Covered Bridge Brewing Group in Cottage Grove (weather permitting; more info on Facebook). FREE.

Trivia w/ Forest, 6-8pm, Gratitude Brewing, 540 E. 8th. FREE.

Esports Game Nights, 6:15-7:15pm, Bob Keefer Ctr., 250 S. 32nd St., Spfd. \$6-8.

SPECTATOR SPORTS

College men's basketball: Oregon vs. Washington, 7pm. Pac-12 Network.

SPIRITUAL

Zen Meditation, 7-8am, Blue Cliff Zen Ctr, 352 W. 12th Ave. FREE.

Michael Sherwin: "Vanishing Points: Revisiting America's Indigenous Landscape," 4pm, Lawrence Hall room 177, UO. FREE.

OFAM Winter: "The Stage: Vaudeville, Revue & Musical Comedy" w/ Jim Ralph, 5pm, Sheffer Recital Hall at The Shedd. FREE.

MUSIC

OFAM Winter: Community Sing Along w/ Amy Adams, 1:30pm, Sheffer Recital Hall at The Shedd. No cover.

John Shipe, singer-songwriter, 7pm, Beergarden, 777 W. 6th Ave. No cover.

OFAM Winter: *Jazzin' The Blues*, 7:30pm, The Shedd. \$25-45.

Still Inside: The Music of Tony Rice & David Grisman, 7:30pm, The Jazz Station, 124 W. Broadway. \$15.

Connectarine & The Vineyard Collective, string jam, 8pm, Sam Bond's, 407 Blair Blvd. \$5.

NIGHTLIFE

Karaoke, 6pm, Falling Sky Delicatessen, 790 Blair Blvd. FREE.

Karaoke, 6pm, Slice Pizzeria and Bar, 3425 Blair Blvd. FREE.

Acoustic Open Mic, 8pm, The Big Dirty, 844 Olive St. FREE.

Karaoke. 9pm, Monkey's Paw, 420 Main St., Spfd. FREE.

ON THE AIR

"The Point," 9am, KOPV, 88.0 FM.

Thursday eKLeCtic, 8-10pm, KLCC, 89.7 FM.

"Arts Journal," 9pm, Comcast channel 29.

RECREATION

Trivia w/ Elliot Martinez, 6-8pm, Covered Bridge Brewing Group



Photo by Taryn Segal

The Playlister

GEN Z SPOTIFY SENSATION **WALLICE**
PERFORMS IN EUGENE

By Will Kennedy

In principle, 20-something California musician Wallice Hana Watanabe, who performs as Wallice, supports the recent exodus of older artists like Neil Young and Joni Mitchell from the music streaming platform Spotify over the pandemic-related content of the Joe Rogan podcast, among other concerns.

But while the world was in quarantine throughout much of 2020 and into 2021, putting live music under lock and key, Wallice songs like "Hey Michael" and "23," and, later, "Wisdom Tooth," found their way on to Spotify playlists, blending '90s-style alternative guitar rock and pop with a distinctly Gen Z angsty perspective.

That success garnered attention from the music industry for the ascending young star, leading to where she is now: On her first national tour supporting Still Woozy, another California songwriter with bedroom pop sensibility, this time with a soul music edge. The Still Woozy and Wallice tour stops by Eugene's McDonald Theatre Feb. 27.

For that reason alone, Wallice tells *Eugene Weekly* over the phone while on tour in Detroit, she's grateful for the controversial streaming platform, despite all its faults.

"All my success in being a professional artist or musician has come during the pandemic. The main reason I have listeners is because of the playlists on Spotify. It could be a bad thing, but also I think that's what the industry is right now," she says.

With an EP available online, and another one in the works, Wallice's debut full-length album is expected sometime later in 2022 or early in 2023.

A public-school-music-education success story while in high school, Wallice went on to study vocal jazz for a year at The New School in New York before she returned to Los Angeles with a bad case of homesickness and a dawning realization that jazz music wasn't for her. She dove instead into the alternative rock she grew up listening to on her first iPod, like Weezer and Blink 182, artists her dad introduced to her or that she heard on the alternative rock radio stations her parents played in the car.

Collaborating with a lifelong musician friend, marinelli, Wallice produced and posted online songs like "Hey Michael," "23" and "Punching Bag." In them she showcases wallflower pop revivalism, with Wallice's endearingly frowning but overall capable singing voice signaling a feisty antagonism and a cynical intelligence, like Billie Eilish with amps, singing the woes of a wisdom tooth.

The stuff's also quite funny at points, from a bitter perspective, which is in line with other recent Gen Z artists like Olivia Rodrigo, Girl in Red or the recent Gayle hit "abcdefu." Is it relevant if your quarter-life crisis is in the rearview? Wallice does, after all, sing "I just can't wait to be all grown up and 23," on the song "23." Probably not, but then again, that's not the point.

Wallice goes on to say what she likes most about the alternative music she grew up listening to is the self-deprecating and approachable tone those artists maintain, which is something she also aspires to. Her band even covers Nirvana's "Heart-Shaped Box" live in concert.

Otherwise, while writing, the musician and her collaborator marinelli "throw in as many jokes as we can," she says, without making the songs into comedy. On "Hey Michael," Wallice sings, "You talk for so long about *Mad Men*, I've never seen that show. You don't gotta say you love *Pulp Fiction*, I already know."

Some artists can seem so egotistical, Wallice says. "I personally wouldn't ever want to be like that. I don't want to take myself too seriously." ■

Wallice performs with Still Woozy, who is supporting his own 2021 release *If This Isn't Nice, I Don't Know What Is*, 8 pm Sunday, Feb. 27, at McDonald Theatre; general admission tickets are sold out, platinum-level tickets available, all-ages, check with venue for COVID-19 safety guidelines.



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3/5 Public Pool with Titsweat & Broth
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3/7 DJ Vinyl Tap
spinning classic metal 8pm.



3/10 Blacktracks & Friends
(show starts at 8pm)



3/20 Koffin Kats with Brainiax and Bad Sex
(show starts at 8pm)

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movies

Don't Sell These Short

EW'S MOVIE CRITIC LOOKS AT FIVE SHORT FILMS NOMINATED FOR THE OSCARS

By Rick Levin

Short films, like short stories, are an exercise in economy and punch. They are measured in minutes, not hours, stripping away all the excelsior and subplots of longer forms to achieve a singular impression that is no less complex and far-reaching for being brief as a bolt of lightning on the far horizon.

In other words, a short film, for all its shortness, can contain vast worlds of feeling and meaning, and this year's Oscar-nominated shorts are no exception. All together this year's live-action offerings, five in total, clock in at just under two hours, and yet viewed back-to-back, they range across the globe and over an emotional landscape that is by turns staggering, devastating and enlightening.



The longest of the bunch is also the most frankly straightforward, and crushing. *Alu Kachuu* ("Take and Run," Switzerland/Kyrgyzstan, written and directed by Maria Brendle, 38 min.) is titled after the Kyrgyz term for bride kidnapping, and its narrative moves with the compulsive momentum of a nightmare. It tells the story of Sezim (Alina Turdumamatova), a young woman who defies her conservative family by moving to the city for college, where she is kidnapped from work and taken to a rural village into forced marriage. Tradition and modernity collide, yes, but underlying the film is a furious appeal to basic human rights.



As intimate and quiet as *Alu Kachuu* is urgent and alarming, *On My Mind* (Denmark, written and directed by Martin Strange-Hansen, 18 min.) is a disarming bit of barfly vérité that resolves itself into a bittersweet valentine to love, loss and mortality. The film opens like the set-up to the classic joke: A man (Rasmus Hammerich) walks into an empty bar, asking the grouchy owner (Ole Boisen) if he can sing an Elvis song on the karaoke machine. The punchline, however, is surprising and profoundly moving — exemplified best by the barkeep's (Camilla Bendix) observation that "the time of miracles isn't over after all."



Kafka meets Orwell meets consumer digital hell in *Please Hold* (U.S., directed by KD Dávila, written by Dávila and Omer Levin Menekse, 19 min.), the story of a young man, Mateo (Erick Lopez), in L.A. who is suddenly and for no apparent reason arrested — by a drone, which instructs him to place the proffered handcuffs on himself under threat of non-lethal violence. No charges are offered, but Mateo is transported to a cell, where he is informed by television screen of everything from upgrading his accommodations by credit card, to procuring a lawyer for ten grand to avoid a half-century sentence, to working for pennies on the dollar knitting hip accessories for sale. The dystopian scenario is nothing new, but the neoliberal twist — of privatized prisons run for profit — updates the blunt Stalinist brutalities of last century into a new realm of ubiquitous surveillance and monetized inhumanity wielded by an untouchable corporate-state authority. It's pretty terrifying.



My favorite of the bunch, and a short film that carries more heart and heft than many movies four times its length, is *The Dress* (Poland, written and directed by Tadeusz Lysiak, 30 min.). It stars the wonderful Anna Dzieduszycka as Julka, a dwarf working as a maid at a fleabag motel/truck stop in rural Poland. Wry, weary and unbearably lonely, Julka spends her days fielding endless stares and circus jokes about her size, and her nights drinking, smoking and playing video lottery.

She longs, hopelessly, for some kind of normal human connection — yes, sex, to be blunt — and when a handsome, kind trucker shows an apparently un-fucked-up interest in her, her hopes are kindled. To reveal more would spoil the devastating impact of this film, which achieves on screen what masters like Anton Chekov and Flannery O'Connor achieved in print, and not in dissimilar fashion. Be prepared to pick yourself up off the floor after this one.



Riz Ahmed's *The Long Goodbye* (U.K./Netherlands, directed by Aneil Karia, 12 min.) is an uncategorizable blow to the solar plexus that left me so infuriated, and so scared for what's coming in our near future, that I actually found myself walking in circles as its credits rolled. The film's nearest kin is Donald Glover's "This is America" video, and like that 2018 shot across the bow of American social collapse, this is a dire and violent howl against growing far-right anti-immigrant violence in Brexit Britain — and, by extension, everywhere. Ahmed, who hit big in 2019 with the movie *Sound of Metal*, released the film with his concept album of the same name — a kind of break-up album with the U.K. The film, which opens with a chaotically loving scene of Ahmed and his British Asian family preparing for a wedding, ends with a scene of equal and opposite chaos (think Kristallnacht). It must be seen to be believed. But believe it we must.

ShortsTV presents three programs of Oscar-nominated short films (live action, animated, documentary) opening Friday, Feb. 25 at Broadway Metro; visit BroadwayMetro.com for details.

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"Director's Cut"

—where do we go from here?

Jonesin' Crossword

BY MATT JONES
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Across

- 1. Fashion mogul von Furstenberg
- 6. "And Winter Came..." singer
- 10. Sound-boosting devices
- 14. "Citizen Kane" director Welles
- 15. "High" places for pirates
- 16. "Who Let the Dogs Out?" group ___ Men
- 17. "Hairspray" director
- 19. Laugh-and-a-half
- 20. Like tough push-ups
- 21. Matriarch
- 23. Suffix after Insta- or auto-
- 26. Groups of quail
- 27. Arm muscle, informally
- 30. In addition
- 32. Uncompressed audio file format
- 33. Folk singer Phil

- 34. Flautist Jean-Pierre ___
- 36. HRE part
- 39. " ___ is me!"
- 40. Colorful writing implements
- 41. "Bill ___ Saves the World" (Netflix series)
- 42. Abbr. at the bottom of a business letter
- 43. Birds, formally
- 44. "Heads up" abbr.
- 45. ___-One ("Sound of da Police" musician)
- 47. " ___: Vegas" (rebooted TV series)
- 48. Actress Tyler of "Archer"
- 49. Become less intense
- 52. "Help!" co-star Ringo
- 54. Memorized perfectly
- 56. Fasteners that pop into place
- 60. Sandpaper quality
- 61. Neither wins nor loses
- 64. "Blues to the Bone" singer ___ James
- 65. Market order
- 66. "Dia de ___" (Shakira song)
- 67. "Fantastic Mr. Fox" author Roald
- 68. Graded item
- 69. Extra you may have to ask for at some drive-thrus (due to state laws)

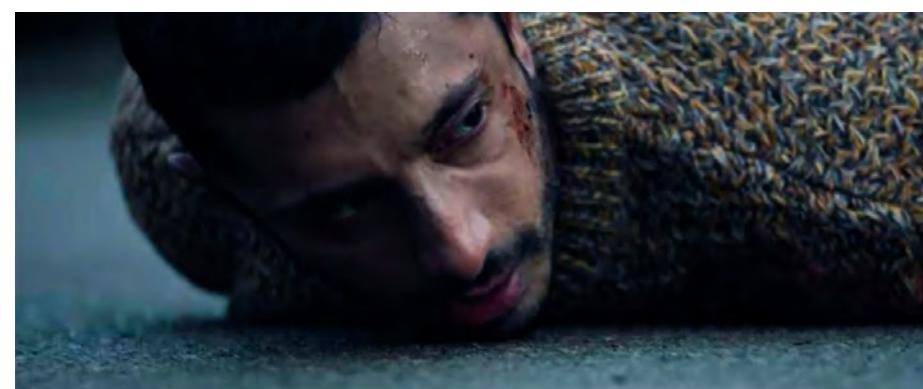
Down

- 1. "Cobra Kai" school
- 2. Metal that can rust
- 3. NYC tennis stadium namesake
- 4. Obscure people
- 5. Swaddle
- 6. Yearbook superlatives ender
- 7. "Born," in a Wikipedia bio

- 8. Fabric shop purchase
- 9. NBA component?
- 10. Brand used to treat cold sores
- 11. Big-ticket items
- 12. Counterfeit
- 13. Appeases fully
- 18. CPA's entry
- 22. Cat noises at night
- 24. Underscore alternative
- 25. What the circled letters represent
- 27. Former heavyweight champ Riddick
- 28. Picture that can be dragged
- 29. Consults
- 31. "Let's see what you got!"
- 34. Minister, for short
- 35. Ques. response
- 37. Ancient legend
- 38. "ChiPS" remake actor Michael
- 40. Fill the tank
- 44. Circulatory conduit
- 46. Apartment, typically
- 48. Comes to light
- 49. Having a border
- 50. Principal artery
- 51. "Blue Ribbon" beer brand
- 53. Vessel boarded by pairs
- 55. Sloth's hangout
- 57. Loving or lasting leader?
- 58. Part of TB
- 59. Lots of it was created for the Beijing Olympics
- 62. South African golf legend Ernie
- 63. ___-newsweekly (paper you might be holding)

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WINDOWMANNEQUIN		
SEVENSISTERS		
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ELLO		STRONGSENSE

ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S



Riz Ahmed's *The Long Goodbye* (U.K./Netherlands, directed by Aneil Karia, 12 min.) is an uncategorizable blow to the solar plexus that left me so infuriated, and so scared for what's coming in our near future, that I actually found myself walking in circles as its credits rolled. The film's nearest kin is Donald Glover's "This is America" video, and like that 2018 shot across the bow of American social collapse, this is a dire and violent howl against growing far-right anti-immigrant violence in Brexit Britain — and, by extension, everywhere. Ahmed, who hit big in 2019 with the movie *Sound of Metal*, released the film with his concept album of the same name — a kind of break-up album with the U.K. The film, which opens with a chaotically loving scene of Ahmed and his British Asian family preparing for a wedding, ends with a scene of equal and opposite chaos (think Kristallnacht). It must be seen to be believed. But believe it we must.

ShortsTV presents three programs of Oscar-nominated short films (live action, animated, documentary) opening Friday, Feb. 25 at Broadway Metro; visit BroadwayMetro.com for details.

FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

BY ROB BREZSNY

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): "A dead thing can go with the stream, but only a living thing can go against it," wrote author G. K. Chesterton. Amen to that! Please regard his observation as the first part of your horoscope. Here's the second part: It's sometimes the right approach to move in harmony with the flow, to allow the momentum of elemental forces to carry you along. But now is not one of those times. I suggest you experiment with journeys against the flow. Go in quest of what the followers of easy options will never experience. Do it humbly, of course, and with your curiosity fully deployed.

T AURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20): "You're never allowed to step on people to get ahead," said TV personality and author Star Jones, "but you can step over them if they're in your way." I suspect the coming months will be a time when you really should step over people who are in your way. There's no need to be mad at them, criticize them, or gossip about them. That would sap your energy to follow your increasingly clear dreams. Your main task is to free yourself from influences that obstruct your ability to be the Royal Sovereign of Your Own Destiny.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20): Gemini-born Gina Rowlands is retired now, but she had an award-winning six-decade career as an actor. At age 20, she decided what she wanted to do with her life, and her parents offered her their blessings. She testified: "I went home and I told my mom that I wanted to quit college and be an actress, and she said, 'Huh, that sounds fascinating. It's wonderful!' And I told my father, and he literally said, 'I don't care if you want to be an elephant trainer if it makes you happy.'" Dear Gemini, in the coming months, I would love for you to receive similar encouragement for your budding ideas and plans. What can you do to ensure you're surrounded by influences like Rowlands' parents? I hope you embark on a long-term project to get all the support you need.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22): As you enter an astrological phase when vast, expansive ruminations will be fun and healthy for you, I will offer you some vast, expansive thoughts. Hopefully, they will inspire your own spacious musings. First, here's artist M. C. Escher: "Wonder is the salt of the earth." Next, author Salman Rushdie: "What's real and what's true aren't necessarily the same." Here's poet Allen Ginsberg: "When you notice something clearly and see it vividly, it then becomes sacred." A proverb from the Omaha people: "Ask questions from your heart, and you will be answered from the heart." G. K. Chesterton: "Let your religion be less of a theory and more of a love affair." Finally, playwright Tony Kushner: "I'm not religious, but I like God, and he likes me."

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22): "Out of love, you can speak with straight fury," wrote author Eudora Welty. Here's how I interpret that in light of the current chapter of your life story: You have an opportunity to recalibrate some misaligned energy. You have the necessary insight to fix an imbalance or dissolve an illusion or correct a flow that has gone off-course. And by far the best way to do that is by wielding the power of love. It will need to be expressed with vehemence and intense clarity, however. It will require you to be both compassionate and firm. Your homework: Figure out how to express transformative truths with kindness.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22): Virgo political science professor Tatah Mentan was born and raised in the African country of Cameroons, which has never fully recovered from its grueling colonization by Germany, France and England. The democratic tradition there is tenuous. When Mentan first taught at a university in the Cameroonian capital, authorities found his ideas too controversial. For the next 16 years, he attempted to be true to himself while avoiding governmental censorship, but the strain proved too stressful. Fearing for his safety, he fled to the U.S. I'm turning to him for advice that will serve you well in the coming weeks. He tells us, "Peace does not mean to be in a place where there is no noise, trouble, or hard work. Peace means to be in the midst of all those things and still be calm in your heart."

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22): "Anything you do from the heart enriches you, but sometimes not till years later," wrote author Mignon McLaughlin. I'm pleased to inform you, Libra, that you will soon receive your rewards for generous actions you accomplished in the past. On behalf of the cosmic rhythms, I apologize for how long it has taken. But at least it's finally here. Don't underestimate how big this is. And don't allow sadness about your earlier deprivation to inhibit your enthusiastic embrace of compensation.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21): No matter how reasonable and analytical you are, Scorpio, you possess a robust attraction to magic. You yearn for the refreshing invigoration of non-rational mysteries. You nurture urges to be delighted by outbreaks of the raw, primal lust for life. According to my astrological assessment, you are especially inclined to want and need these feelings in the next few weeks. And that's good and healthy and holy! At the same time, don't abandon your powers of discernment. Keep them running in the background as you enjoy your rejuvenating communions with the enigmatic pleasures of the Great Unknown.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21): Author Diane Ackerman tells us, "In the absence of touching and being touched, people of all ages can sicken and grow touch starved. Touch seems to be as essential as sunlight." This is always important to remember, but it will be extra crucial for you to keep in mind during the coming weeks. I advise you to be ingenuous and humble and frank as you collect as much physical contact as you can. Be polite and respectful, of course. Never force yourself on anyone. Always seek permission. With those as your guidelines, be greedy for hugs and cuddling and caresses.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19): "Education, fundamentally, is the increase of the percentage of the conscious in relation to the unconscious." Author and educator Sylvia Ashton-Warner said that, and now I'm telling you — just in time for one of the most lesson-rich times of a year that will be full of rich lessons. In the next nine months, dear Capricorn, the proportion of your consciousness in relation to your unconsciousness should markedly increase. And the coming weeks will be a favorable phase to upgrade your educational ambitions.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18): You're entering a phase of your cycle when your ability to boost your finances will be stronger than usual. You'll be more likely to attract good luck with money and more apt to discover useful tips on how to generate greater abundance. To inspire your efforts, I offer you this observation by author Katharine Butler Hathaway: "To me, money is alive. It is almost human. If you treat it with real sympathy and kindness and consideration, it will be a good servant and work hard for you, and stay with you and take care of you."

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20): Author Deb Caletti made the following observation: "You have ordinary moments and ordinary moments and more ordinary moments, and then, suddenly, there is something monumental right there. You have past and future colliding in the present, your own personal Big Bang, and nothing will ever be the same." In my vision of your destiny in 2022, Pisces, there could be several of these personal Big Bangs, and one of them seems to be imminent. To prepare — that is, to ensure that the changes are primarily uplifting and enjoyable — I suggest you chant the following mantra at least five times every day: "I love and expect good changes."

Homework: Give yourself a blessing. Say why you're wonderful and name a marvelous event that's ahead for you. Newsletter.FreeWillAstrology.com

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LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notices

ESTATE SARAH EMILY SUSMAN, DECEASED. NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS (Case No. 22PB00221) in the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Lane, Probate Department. Notice is hereby given that Rachael P. Susman has been appointed as the personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them to the undersigned personal representative in care of the undersigned attorney at: 6500 S Macadam Ave., Ste. 300, Portland, OR 97239-3565 within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, as stated below, or such claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or the attorney for the Personal Representative. Dated and first published on February 24, 2022. Deborah Louise Buchanan, Personal Representative

All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the personal representative c/o Robert Cole Tozer, Attorney at Law, 975 Oak St., Suite 615, Eugene, OR 97401, (541)345-0795, within four months of the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or the attorney for the personal representative. Dated and first published February 17, 2022. Personal Representative, /s/ Estella Mary Myers

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY Probate Department. In the Matter of the Estate of STEPHEN HARVEY WILLIAMS, Deceased. Case No. 22PB01239 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the undersigned Personal Representative at 767 Willamette Street, Suite 302, Eugene, Oregon 97401, within four months of the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or the attorney for the personal representative. Dated and first published February 17, 2022. Personal Representative, /s/ Valerie Lee Hiller.

NOTICE OF SALE OF ABANDONED MANUFACTURED HOME Sharon Simpson Carroll, trustee of Patricia and Kerney Simpson Family Trust, UAD April 29, 2009, will sell the below-described manufactured home by private sealed bid for the highest offered received. The home has been abandoned. The home, tenant and owner are described below. Bids for cash payment will be accepted until 9:00 am, March 4, 2022. Interested parties may contact landlord c/o Sharon Simpson Carroll at 541-913-3151 to make arrangements to inspect the home. Bids may be submitted to Sharon Simpson Carroll, trustee of Patricia and Kerney Simpson Family Trust, UAD April 29, 2009, 91310 Territorial Hwy, Junction City, Oregon 97448, for the following manufactured home: Year: 1997; Manufacturer: Barrington; Model: Unknown; Home ID #208245; Manufacturer's Serial #WAFIA742310389, located at 42276 Winberry Creek Road, Fall Creek, Oregon 97438; owner/tenant: Valerie Lee Hiller.

NOTICE OF SALE OF ABANDONED MANUFACTURED HOME St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County, Inc., dba Oakridge Mobile Home Park, will sell the below-described manufactured home by private sealed bid for the highest offered received. The home has been abandoned. The home, tenant and owner are described below. Bids for cash payment will be accepted until 9:00 am, March 4, 2022. Interested parties may contact landlord at (541)743-7134 to make arrangements to inspect the home. Bids may be submitted to St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County, Inc., dba Oakridge Mobile Home Park, Attn: Property Management Department, c/o Benjamin Abbe, P.O. 24608, Eugene, Oregon 97402, for the following manufactured home: Year: 1973; Manufacturer: Bon Prix; Model: Unknown; Home ID #174407; Manufacturer's Serial #0W4100UX, located at 47775 Berry St, Space #22B, Oakridge, Oregon 97463; owner/tenant: Estate of Darla Kaye Ream, Darla Kaye Ream, deceased.

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS Claims against the Estate of Donald A. Lindly, Deceased, Lane County Circuit Court Case No. 22PB01193, are required to be presented to the Co-Personal Representatives, Adam Lindly and Amber Lindly, at 675 Oak Street, Suite 400, Eugene, OR 97401, within four (4) months from 02/17/22, the date of first publication, or such claims may be barred. Any person whose rights may be affected by the proceeding may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or the attorneys for the Personal Representative. HERSHNER HUNTER, LLP, Attorneys

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS Claims against the Estate of Virginia L. Onsrud, Deceased, Lane County Circuit Court Case No. 22PB01194, are required to be presented to the Personal Representative, Anna Lisa Onsrud at 675 Oak Street, Suite 400, Eugene, OR 97401, within four (4) months from 02/17/22, the date of first publication, or such claims may be barred. Any person whose rights may be affected by the proceeding may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the Personal Representative, or the attorneys for the Personal Representative. HERSHNER HUNTER, LLP, Attorneys

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NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS ESTATE OF BABETTE JOSEPHS LANE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT CASE NO. 22PB01005. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned have been appointed Co-Personal Representatives. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with written evidence thereof attached, to the Co-Personal Representatives, Elizabeth Master and Lee Newberg, c/o Wendy L. Laing, Hutchinson Cox, PO Box 10886, Eugene, Oregon 97440. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them within four months after the date of first publication of this notice to the Co-Personal Representatives at the address stated above for the presentation of claims or such claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by these proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Co-Personal Representatives, or the Attorney for the Co-Personal Representatives, named above. Dated and first published 02/10/22

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed and has qualified as the Personal Representative of the Estate of Alice W. King, deceased, Lane County Probate No. 22PB01141. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present their claims, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, as stated below, to the Personal Representative at 188 West B Street, Bldg. N, Springfield, Oregon 97477, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this Estate may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or the attorney for the Personal Representative. Dated and first published: 02/17/22. Tracy King, Personal Representative. Alex E. Gavrilidis, Attorney for Personal Representative, Leahy Cox, LLP, 188 W. B Street, Bldg. N, Springfield, Oregon 97477, (541) 746-9621

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed and has qualified as the Personal Representative of the Estate of Bradley Ellis Doolin, deceased, Lane County Probate No. 22PB01266. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present their claims, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, as stated below, to the Personal Representative at 188 West B Street, Bldg. N, Springfield, Oregon 97477, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this Estate may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or the attorney for the Personal Representative. Dated and first published: 02/17/22. Martin Edward Tripp, Personal Representative. Alex E. Gavrilidis, Attorney for Personal Representative, Leahy Cox, LLP, 188 W. B Street, Bldg. N, Springfield, Oregon 97477, (541) 746-9621

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed and has qualified as the Personal Representative of the Estate of Rosanne Gail Brown, deceased, Lane County Probate No. 22PB01415. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present their claims, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, as stated below, to the Personal Representative at 188 West B Street, Bldg. N, Springfield, Oregon 97477, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this Estate may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or the attorney for the Personal Representative. Dated and first published: 02/24/22. Janice "Joy" Burge, Personal Representative. Alex E. Gavrilidis, Attorney for Personal Representative, Leahy Cox, LLP, 188 W. B Street, Bldg. N, Springfield, Oregon 97477, (541) 746-9621

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS Stephen Lokan has been appointed Personal Representative (hereafter PR) of the Estate of Gary Allen Lokan, Deceased, Probate No. 21PB11193 Lane County Circuit Court, State of Oregon. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceeding may obtain additional information from the court records, the PR, or the attorney for the PR. All persons having claims against the estate must present them via US mail or personal delivery to the PR at: Mammen & Null, Lawyers, LLC J. Glenn Null, Attorney for PR 1602 Sixth Street - P.O. Box 477, La Grande, OR 97850, (541) 963-5229

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS: Probate proceedings in the Estate of Judith A. Levin, Deceased, are now pending in the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Lane County, Case No. 22PB01419, and William L. Levin has been appointed Personal Representative of the estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present the same, with proper vouchers, to the Personal Representative, c/o Gleaves Swearingen LLP, Attorneys at Law, 975 Oak Street, Suite 800, Eugene, OR 97401, within 4 months from the date of the first publication of this notice or such claims may be barred. NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN to all persons whose rights may be affected by the above-entitled proceedings that additional information may be obtained from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative or the attorneys for the Personal Representative. Dated and first published: 02/17/22. Tracy King, Personal Representative. Alex E. Gavrilidis, Attorney for Personal Representative, Leahy Cox, LLP, 188 W. B Street, Bldg. N, Springfield, Oregon 97477, (541) 746-9621

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. Claims against the Estate of Gerald Joseph Thenell, Deceased, Lane County Circuit Court Case No. 22PB00974, are required to be presented to the Personal Representative, Catherine Wardzala at 675 Oak Street, Suite 400, Eugene, OR 97401, within four (4) months from 02/10/22, the date of first publication, or such claims may be barred. Any person whose rights may be affected by the proceeding may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the Personal Representative, or the attorneys for the Personal Representative. HERSHNER HUNTER, LLP, Attorneys

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. Notice is hereby given that Steven Broussard has been appointed personal representative of the Estate of Taylor Christian Broussard, deceased, by the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Lane County, Probate File No. 22PB00490. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby notified to present the same to the said personal representative, at the office of the personal representative's attorney, Andrew L. Kraushaar, 834 Pearl Street, Eugene, OR 97401, within four months from the date of the first publication of this notice or their claims may be barred. Date of the first publication of this notice is 02/10/22. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceeding may obtain additional information from the records of the Court or from the personal representative, or from the personal representative's attorney, Andrew L. Kraushaar, 834 Pearl Street, Eugene OR 97401; Phone 541-484-1066.

NOTICE TO: DANIEL NEWSOME, IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF OREGON: You are hereby required to appear and answer the Petition to Establish Custody, Parenting Time and Child Support of your child Julian Watson filed against you in Lane County Circuit Court Case No. 21DRO8846 within thirty (30) days from the date of first publication of this Summons; and if you fail to appear; for want thereof: Petitioner will apply to the court for the relief demanded therein. NOTICE TO RESPONDENT: READ THESE PAPERS CAREFULLY! You must "appear" in this case or the other side will win automatically. To "appear" you must file with the court a legal paper called a "motion" or "answer." The "motion" or "answer" must be given to the court clerk or administrator within 30 days along with the required filing fee. It must be in proper form and have proof of service on the Petitioner's attorney Kevin Lafky, 429 Court Street NE, Salem, OR. If you have any questions, you should see an attorney immediately. If you need help in finding an attorney, you may call the Oregon State Bar's Lawyer Referral Service at (503) 684-3763 or toll-free in Oregon at (800) 452-7636.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the Lane County Tax Collector/Assessor Michael C Cowles, and any of his heirs or assigns. You are hereby required to provide verified written proof, under penalty of perjury, of your presumptive claim that I am a taxpayer subject to paying an ad valorem real property tax, or that my nonbusiness, noncommercial private domain is taxable real property, and that Lane County has any right, claim or interest in it. You are required to provide this proof within 60 days after the date of the first publication of this notice, 2/24/22, to Abraham Likwornik o/o 2983 Ingalls Way, Eugene, Oregon [97405] or by email to questions4fiduciaries@gmail.com. Your failure to provide such verified proof will constitute your default, tacit acquiescence and agreement that I am not and never have been a taxpayer subject to paying an ad valorem real property tax. It will also bar you from ever making such claim again, by estoppel, at any time in the future, in court or otherwise.

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SAVAGE LOVE

Sub Optimal

BY DAN SAVAGE



I'm a submissive gay man with a 15-year-old nephew. Through his actions and words, both his parents and I have gathered he might be gay, which is absolutely no issue. However, we've also recently discovered that he seems to be interested in D/s themes with him as the sub. Besides the occasional veiled comments and sketchy online searches, he's also described situations where he's convinced other boys to subtly Dom him, both in vanilla ways and some decidedly more borderline. We're being careful to teach him about healthy boundaries and appropriate behaviors, but I have an additional struggle with all this. As a gay sub, I've been a bit of a failure. I've had no lasting relationships. I've never found a man who wanted me as both a partner and his slave. I know that there are success stories out there — sub guys with partners and families — but I'm not one of them. I want to be a good gay uncle, but honestly, I'm an objectively poor role model. If this is the path he ultimately takes, I want him to be safe, happy and loved. But I don't know how to do this if I'm advising from my own collection of sado experiences. Any suggestions?

— Uncle Good Heart

"By emphasizing the importance of consent, UGH is already getting the most important thing right," says Hadrian Temple, a dominant gay leatherman, blogger, and erotica author. "UGH's nephew needs to know he has a right to say no to any form of play he feels uncomfortable with. He should also know that until he has agreed to some sort of power exchange with a potential Dom, they are interacting as equals. He doesn't have to start obeying the Dom until he's agreed to start obeying, and he can withdraw his consent at any time and stop the play."

Your nephew also needs to be told that "convincing" other boys to "subtly dominate him" isn't ethical. If these boys don't realize what your nephew is doing — and what they're doing for your nephew — then they haven't consented to playing D/s games with him. And just as your nephew wants to avoid bad Doms lurking on the other end of sketchy online searches — and any adult Dom willing to play with a 15-year-old boy is by definition bad and untrustworthy — your nephew needs to avoid being a bad/creepy/manipulative sub.

"And besides, pushing vanilla guys to dominate him is not a great long-term strategy for finding a Dom," said Temple. "One of the hardest things for novice subs to understand is that vanilla guys don't like to be dominant — if they did, they wouldn't be vanilla. Sure, there are some guys who don't realize they're kinky until a sub comes along, but he shouldn't assume every hot guy he likes is a potential Dom. In most cases, attempting to 'convert' vanilla guys is a waste of time."

And while exploring his sexuality with an age-appropriate partner who shares your nephew's kinks would be safer, more appropriate, and legal, finding someone his own age who's not just gay but also attracted to him and into dominating someone — and someone your nephew is attracted to in turn — is a tall order. Instead of searching for someone to play with right now, reading about, thinking about, fantasizing about, and masturbating about his kinks would be a far better and less frustrating use of his time.

As for whether your nephew needs to know about your sado experiences...

"In one sense, it doesn't matter if UGH is a 'poor role model' where long-term relationships are concerned," said Temple. "He can still offer his nephew good advice without going into sad or sordid details. He can answer questions and promise to be non-judgmental. And UGH shouldn't assume he's a bad sub — or a bad role model — because he hasn't found a long-term kinky partner. There are lots of reasons why a sub might not have met the right Dom, and only a few of those reasons really come down to being a bad sub. Most kinksters feel there are more subs out there than there are Doms, so there are good subs who haven't been able to get the partner they deserve because the Dom-to-sub ratio is skewed."

And while kinks can complicate a person's search for a partner, being vanilla — or pretending to be vanilla — does not guarantee someone a partner. Just as there are lots of happily partnered kinky people out there (some partnered with people who aren't kinky), there are lots of 100% vanilla people out there who are unhappily single.

To get a young sub's perspective, UGH, I shared your question with Gimpboy95, a 26-year-old gay sub in Chicago. (Gimpboy95 is his handle on Instagram, and it's how he wanted to be identified in the column.) Not too long ago, Gimpboy95 was in your nephew's shoes: another gay, kinky, inexperienced teenager scouring the Internet for information, porn and connection.

"There are some shady/sketchy people out there, of course, but there's a lot of good out there, too," says Gimpboy95, who had his first sexual experiences at age 18. "UGH's nephew can do his research, figure out what he likes, and ultimately find his community, just like I did. And finding community is, in my opinion, absolutely crucial."

Finding community means making kinky friends, not just matching with kinky sex partners.

"Having a shoulder or boot to lean on has helped me tremendously," says Gimpboy95. "So once UGH's nephew is old enough, he shouldn't be afraid to put himself out there — and not just on the internet. Meeting other people in the kink community at local events who were open and accepting — whether their identities were centered around kink or kink was more of a hobby — really has been the most fulfilling part of my journey."

Follow Hadrian Temple on Twitter @HadrianTemple and check out his blog and his erotica at gaybdsmfiction.blog. Follow Gimpboy95 on Instagram @Gimpboy95.

I'm a lesbian in her 30's located in S.F. I am in a pretty healthy relationship with my partner of three years. During quarantine, sex has become less frequent and less exciting, and we've talked, but still no solution. I think we can turn things around and I'm in love with her and see myself with her in the future, but I would like to open our relationship. I think we'd both enjoy and be excited by new prospects. On the flip side, I'm not sure this will make things better. I have brought this up to her directly, but it never goes well. I have a solo work trip coming up and I can't stop thinking about how easily I can have a one-night stand and some meaningless, fun sex. I feel bad about this, but also feel as though it could help me figure things out. I've brought up how I want to open our relationship, and she's entertained the idea, but we haven't come to a mutual agreement. What can I do? I am not sexually fulfilled and can't live like this forever. Help!

— Bored Over Ravenously Eating Dude

Let him play the harmonica while you pluck that banjo.

I'm a lesbian in her 30's located in S.F. I am in a pretty healthy relationship with my partner of three years. During quarantine, sex has become less frequent and less exciting, and we've talked, but still no solution. I think we can turn things around and I'm in love with her and see myself with her in the future, but I would like to open our relationship. I think we'd both enjoy and be excited by new prospects. On the flip side, I'm not sure this will make things better. I have brought this up to her directly, but it never goes well. I have a solo work trip coming up and I can't stop thinking about how easily I can have a one-night stand and some meaningless, fun sex. I feel bad about this, but also feel as though it could help me figure things out. I've brought up how I want to open our relationship, and she's entertained the idea, but we haven't come to a mutual agreement. What can I do? I am not sexually fulfilled and can't live like this forever. Help!

— Desperate Lesbo

There's the right thing to do... which is to honor the monogamous commitment you've made while continuing to be honest with your partner about your desire to renegotiate the terms of your commitment and slowly move towards the openness you want while making sure your partner feels safe, secure, and prioritized at every moment along what is likely to be a long journey, and one that may never get you to your desired destination... and then there's the thing a lot of people wind up doing... which is to have impulsive sex with some rando on a business trip and then get caught or confess, thereby creating the kind of crisis that forces a rapid renegotiation of the terms of your commitment. The former approach might never get where you want to be — your partner might never agree to open the relationship — while the latter approach almost always (but not always) gets you dumped.

You say that things can't go on like this forever. You aren't sexually fulfilled, and it doesn't sound like you ever will be, unless your partner agrees to open the relationship*. Since that's the case, DL, you could opt for a variation on the right thing to do: demand a rapid renegotiation without cheating. She'll feel pressured, yes, but better to feel pressured than betrayed and pressured.

* Not everyone in an open relationship is sexually fulfilled. Just saying.



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